

MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR IN NEW ENGLAND!

VOL. 11, NO. 41

May 5, 1984

\$1.00

Gay Community News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

BIPAD: 65498

'PROBABLE' CAUSE OF AIDS

**FREEDOM'S JUST: SEX VS.
GENDER**

WOMEN IN CINEMA

**FEELING FEMME, DRESSING
FEMME**

**NEW BEDFORD AFTER BIG
DAN'S**

GayCommunityNews

Vol. 11, No. 41

(617) 426-4469

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May 5, 1984

No Treatment, No Cure

Officials Name 'Probable' Cause of AIDS

By Jim Ryan

WASHINGTON, DC — Federal officials announced on April 23 that they have identified a virus they consider to be the "probable cause" of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). However, some researchers and AIDS activists take a cautious approach to the announcement.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler, flanked by researchers from the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Cancer Institute, reported the news to a packed press conference. "I am proud to announce," she said, "that the arrow of funds, medical personnel, research, and experimentation that the Department of Health and Human Services and its allies around the world have aimed and fired at the disease AIDS has hit

the target — only two or three rings away from the bullseye."

Specifically, Heckler announced that researchers now consider a variant of a known human cancer virus, called HTLV-III, the probable cause of AIDS. A process has been developed to mass-produce this virus, allowing researchers to characterize it and better understand its behavior. A blood test for AIDS has been developed, which doctors hope will be widely available within six months.

The blood test, according to Dr. Robert Gallo, chief of the National Cancer Institute laboratory of tumor cell biology, will enable doctors to identify AIDS in humans with essentially 100 percent certainty and to guarantee that blood for transfusions is free from AIDS. Using the test, doctors hope to be able to promptly

and easily diagnose people who may have been affected by the virus and perhaps develop ways to prevent the syndrome from advancing to its full-blown phase.

Finally, researchers hope to have ready within two to three years' time a vaccine to prevent AIDS. The discoveries announced by Heckler and the research that led to them will be described in detail in the May 4 issue of *Science* magazine.

Heckler, relishing her moment in the light of success, said that "yet another terrible disease is about to yield to patience, persistence and outright genius." But, it is important to keep these discoveries in perspective. A great deal more work has to be done before AIDS is eradicated. For instance, these discoveries, in themselves, will not end the suffering of

those who currently have AIDS or those who will develop it in the years before a vaccine is available. And, prevention of this disease does not mean that a cure has been found.

Dr. Edward Brandt, the Assistant Secretary for Health who has led the Public Health Service effort to combat the disease, said that research into treatment will continue at full speed and that he hopes by studying the agent that causes the disease, doctors will be able to develop more effective means of treating it. In addition, the prediction of two to three years for the development of the vaccine may be overly optimistic; the hepatitis B vaccine, for example, took over ten years to develop and is still not without its problems.

Doctors still are not sure if there is a carrier state for AIDS. It is not known why some people exposed to the virus develop the syndrome in its severest form, while others develop only mild symptoms, and others don't seem to exhibit symptoms at all. Some researchers have suggested a primary AIDS agent that might work with some other agent or factor at one or more points in the progression of the syndrome. These possible "co-factor/s" must be identified in order to understand how or if the disease will develop in someone exposed to the virus.

The press conference itself was a source of controversy. For days,

there had been reports in the press that the Pasteur Institute in Paris was about to announce it had discovered the cause of AIDS to be a virus called LAV. Many accused federal officials here of rushing to announce the discoveries made at the National Cancer Institute in order to take credit away from the French. Heckler denied that this was the case. She said that American researchers believe that they and the French may have simply given two names to the same virus.

In any case, the announcement is a political coup for Heckler and the Reagan administration, which has been criticized in the past for responding inadequately to the AIDS crisis. Inside sources have said that Heckler insisted on making the announcement herself. She held the press conference in spite of the fact that she had a severe case of laryngitis, which made it almost impossible to hear her at times.

Gay men and lesbians at the press conference, many of whom have felt the effects of AIDS through the loss of friends and loved ones, expressed the fear that research into AIDS will be put on the back burner now that scientists have developed ways to prevent its spread from at-risk populations to the larger community. Many believe that serious research efforts began only with public worry that

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Gay Man Files Job Complaint Against City

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — A legally-blind gay man who was fired after ten years of civil service employment at Boston City Hospital has charged his supervisors and co-workers with anti-gay harassment and filed a formal grievance through his union to contest his termination. Bruce LaFlamme, an admitting clerk at the hospital, has also charged the Flynn administration's Labor Relations Office with stonewalling the grievance procedure, and has asked for the case to be sent to arbitration.

LaFlamme received a letter last July from then-Acting Deputy Commissioner of Health and Hospitals Buford Kaigler, informing him that because of "excessive absenteeism" and "abuse of sick leave" his employment with the city-owned hospital would be terminated as of July 29, 1983.

But LaFlamme, a member of Service Employees International Union Local 285, says the missed working days were a legitimate use of sick leave following the injury of his ankle in a motorcycle accident. The charges, he says, were a vindictive effort by co-workers to remove him from his job because he is gay and disabled, in violation of personnel procedures and sexual preference non-discrimination language specified by the union's contract with the hospital. And the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security has agreed that LaFlamme was fired without just cause and awarded him unemployment benefits.

LaFlamme had worked at City Hospital since June 1973 and first applied for the Admitting Department job in 1976. After he was turned down on three successive applications, LaFlamme filed a grievance through the union. A hearing was held to determine whether LaFlamme was unfairly denied the job.

According to LaFlamme, the woman who had denied him the job testified at the grievance hearing that he didn't have an "outgoing or forceful enough personality" for the position. LaFlamme says he believes, on the

basis of other interactions, that her comments about his personality were actually a veiled form of homophobia. They city's Department of Labor Relations ruled in favor of LaFlamme and in May, 1980, he joined the Admitting Department.

"I was given the job grudgingly," LaFlamme told GCN, "and I was allowed to have the job as long as I was a provisional employee."

In October, 1981, however, LaFlamme took the civil service exam required to change his provisional status to permanent. LaFlamme passed the exam, and in February, 1983, found himself placed on the civil service list. LaFlamme was also placed on a six-month probationary period as a permanent employee.

LaFlamme says his tenure on the job was plagued by homophobic comments from his supervisor and fellow employees. "They would make comments that they wouldn't work with me because I was a faggot," he told GCN. Once, when he called another office to ask for help with a sudden rush of work, someone asked, "Who's going to help that faggot?"

Homophobic statements were also entered on LaFlamme's computerized medical records at the hospital, records to which LaFlamme's colleagues had access. LaFlamme reported that incident to his supervisor, but no action was taken.

Not all of LaFlamme's co-workers were homophobic, however. One sympathetic colleague with whom he became friendly was Grace Romero, who has since been elected to the Boston School Committee.

"He was a hard worker, no question about that, but unfortunately he was discriminated against," Romero told GCN. "He was abused and I was able to observe that abuse."

Romero said the homophobic employees would frequently talk about LaFlamme behind his back. "You would hear comments back

and forth," she said. "There was no reason for me to know whether he was gay or not. But I was approached and I was told that he was, which doesn't matter because he's a fine person and everyone has a right to live their life the way

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Several Baths Close

Bay Area Community Awaits Sex Regulations

By Christine Guilfooy

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco's gay community remains quiet, but tense, as it awaits the issuance of regulations which will put the City Health Department's directive to eliminate sexual activity in the baths, bookstores and sex clubs into effect.

The director of the City's Public Health Department, Mervyn Silverman, MD, made his pronouncement at a press conference April 9 when he said, in part, "Altering behavior in bathhouses, sex clubs and other facilities could have an important effect on the incidence of AIDS. . . . [A]ll sexual activity between individuals [should be eliminated] in public facilities in San Francisco where the transmission of AIDS is likely to occur."

Once the regulations have been spelled out by the city attorney, they will become part of the licensing requirements for the baths. Failure to comply with the regulations could result in suspension or revocation of the license.

However, regulation of sexual activity within sex clubs and bookstores presents a different problem since, except in cases of emergency, they do not fall within the health department's jurisdiction. Gary Titus, coordinator of AIDS Activity at the City Department of Public Health, told GCN that the Board of Supervisors will have to draft enabling legislation to bring places like the sex clubs

under the jurisdiction of the Health Department.

The sequence of events which led to the sex ban in these facilities was set into motion when Larry Littlejohn, a longtime gay activist, said he intended to gather signatures to put an initiative on the November ballot which would have put the regulation of bathhouse sex to the voters.

Apparently reacting to the spectre of an initiative, some members of the gay community, most prominently gay Supervisor Harry Britt and some members of the Milk Democratic Club, urged Silverman to consider closing the baths under his authority as director of the Public Health Department. Apparently believing he had a mandate from the gay community and probably under political pressure from Mayor Diane Feinstein, Silverman called a press conference, implying he would regulate bathhouse activity. However, at that press conference on March 20, Silverman delayed the decision until April 9, because of intense opposition from many within the gay community.

Littlejohn told GCN that he is satisfied with Silverman's directive and will not go forward with his initiative.

In the meantime, several baths have closed, or announced closure in the near future. Jack Fertig, a local activist, told GCN that some baths have closed, apparently be-

cause of a drop in attendance. "The clubs that have gone out of business are the ones that are at some level coed. Sutro, The Catacombs [fit into this category and have gone out of business.] Business was down all around and in several cases, this was probably the final blow. But a lot of people aren't sure what's going on. The new regulations haven't gone into effect. A lot of people heard that sex was not going to be allowed, so they just stopped going."

Fertig said that the events have deepened divisions in the San Francisco community. He said that some people, both from the Health Department and the community, downplayed the directive by saying that some forms of sexual activity would be allowed and that the health inspections would be more than real.

Fertig said that the health department is unclear about what types of activity might be allowed and added, in terms of the policing, "I'm worried about the precedence. And [furthermore] I think it will heighten the spread of AIDS, it'll only drive that [type of sexual activity] further underground. Then they might start looking for another scapegoat. It could be gay people working in restaurants."

— filed from Boston

News Notes

quote of the week

"There is no established correlation between the continued rise of AIDS and bathhouse sex. When closure of the bathhouses fails to stem the tide and terror of AIDS, what will they close next?"

"If people choose to be dangerously sexual against the prevailing wisdom, they will continue to do so until we are all segregated, one-by-one, into glory-hole proof cells."

— James B. Meyers, in a letter to the editor published in the *Bay Area Reporter*, April 19, 1984.

cheaper hep b vaccine on the way?

PASADENA, CA — Scientists say they may have discovered a way to develop a hepatitis B vaccine for only a few dollars per patient, as compared to the current cost of about \$100 per patient, according to the *Washington Post*. Hepatitis B strikes thousands of people each year and claims about 5000 lives in a year. Gay men are considered to be at high risk for contracting hepatitis B.

Researchers at the California Institute of Technology and at the New York Blood Center reported that protein parts that help coat the hepatitis B virus triggered an immune reaction when mixed with the blood of human carriers of the virus. The next step in the research will be to produce a vaccine from artificial protein parts and then test the vaccine on animals and, later, on people.

If the tests are successful, a new, cheaper vaccine may be available by 1987.

new orleans rights bill bites the dust

NEW ORLEANS — A municipal gay rights measure went down to defeat here recently and gay/lesbian activists are holding a councillor with mayoral aspirations responsible, according to the *Bay Area Reporter*. The council voted 3-3 on the bill, with the deadlock constituting a defeat.

Councilmember Joseph Giarrusso, considered the swing vote on the bill, voted "no." Giarrusso is expected to run for mayor next year and is vulnerable to the Catholic hierarchy's influence over the heavily Catholic electorate in New Orleans. Archbishop Phillip Hannon had threatened to immediately begin a ballot initiative campaign to kill the ordinance if it was approved. He was quoted as saying the use of church resources could remove the measure from the books "in short order."

Giarrusso said after the vote, "I hope my gay supporters won't think too harshly of me for doing this."

Gay activist Alan Robinson of the Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus wasn't feeling charitable, however. He said that the Caucus would pledge to "defeat each councilman who voted 'no' — for whatever spurious reasons they gave. They can never come to the gay community for support again."

minneapolis partnerships

MINNEAPOLIS — Gay and lesbian activists in Minneapolis are mobilizing support for the proposed domestic partner legislation here, according to *Equal Time*.

A committee of the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission is considering the proposal to add domestic partners as a protected class under the city's Civil Rights Ordinance and to allow easier access to insurance, credit and other employee benefits. Domestic partnership status could be obtained by gay or straight couples by signing and filing a statement with the city.

Gay city councilmember Brian Coyle formed a steering committee to organize support for the measure. The steering committee will coordinate activities among different groups and will also seek endorsements from organizations.

Rick Osborne, author of the proposal and a member of the Civil Rights Commission, noted, "We have a tough sales job because people say we're legalizing gay marriage. We're giving domestic partners the same legal footing, but it's not the same as creating gay marriages."

gay man to pursue suit against cia

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge on April 6 denied the government's motion to dismiss a gay engineer's complaint that the Central Intelligence Agency violated his constitutional rights by withdrawing his security clearance after his sexuality became known to the agency, according to the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*.

The ruling clears the way for gay engineer John Green's suit against the agency and some of its officials, including Director William Casey. Green's lawyer, John McDermott, will seek depositions from Casey and others in the agency in an effort to show that they revoked Green's clearance in 1982 solely because he is gay.

McDermott said he expects Green's case to be the first that addresses the question on what reasons the government must have in order to discharge or take away the rights of gay people.

The CIA revoked Green's clearance after he identified himself to an investigator as the longterm lover of a fellow employee at the California firm of TRW, Inc., a defense contractor. A government lawyer said that Green "does not have the constitutional right to promiscuous sexual activity and yet have access to this nation's most sensitive secrets."

gay physicians group to host conference

CHICAGO — The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights (AAPHR) will hold its annual meeting here Aug. 22 to 25. The meeting will feature a symposium on critical gay and lesbian health problems and a course on current aspects of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

Three major objectives of the meeting are: to provide physicians with up-to-date information on the medical and psychological developments about AIDS; to provide researchers with information on educational and research programs in their own communities; to educate health care providers about the societal problems affecting themselves and their patients.

For more information on the conference or to obtain registration materials, write AAPHR, P.O. Box 143366, San Francisco, CA 94114.

boston human rights bill huddle

BOSTON — The Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (BL/GPA) has scheduled a lobbying strategy session to plan for the passage of a comprehensive human rights ordinance. The meeting will be held on Saturday, May 12 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Hill House, 74 Joy St., Beacon Hill.

The aim of the program is to mobilize community support for a bill prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing, employment, credit and public accommodations in the city. Gay City Councillor David Scondras is expected to introduce the ordinance to the City Council in mid-May.

The session will include: a briefing on the content of the ordinance; planning a constituent organizing drive; assessing the political climate on the Council; and developing lobbying skills.

For more information, call Ben Klein at 262-3814.

first, a gay mayor, now, gay rights

LAGUNA BEACH, CA — The city council here unanimously passed the first gay rights ordinance in conservative Orange County on April 17, according to the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*. The ordinance allows gay people to take employment or housing discrimination complaints to municipal court.

Gay Mayor Robert Gentry engineered passage of the ordinance to counter the backlash he feared from Gov. George Deukmejian's veto of the state's gay rights bill, AB 1. Gentry noted that the veto has raised "a new level of fear" among gay people because it may be interpreted as tacit approval for anti-gay discrimination. He estimated that 15-30 percent of Laguna Beach's 18,000 residents are gay.

This brings to 13 the number of California cities and counties which have enacted gay rights legislation in recent years.

boston speakers bureau receives grant

BOSTON — The Boston Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau must raise \$2000 in matching funds to become eligible for a \$5000 grant from the Chicago Resource Center, according to a press release from Bureau coordinator Peg Lorenz.

The Resource Center made the grant award to the Speakers Bureau for the development of gay curriculum for high schools and colleges. The objective of the curriculum is to educate adolescents and adults about homosexuality using facts and dialogue to counter myths and sensational media reports. The curriculum design will include a teacher's manual, a set of lesson plans from which the teacher can design his/her own approach to the issue, and methods for evaluating the curriculum by students, teachers and the Speakers Bureau.

Speakers Bureau members hope that introducing students to the diversity of sexual expression will increase awareness and openness and, in turn, quell fears caused by perceived differentness.

Tax deductible contributions may be made to help support this project. Write to the Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau, P.O. Box 2232, Boston, MA 02107 or call (617) 354-0133.

standing behind the salvation army's stand

NEW YORK CITY — The Salvation Army of Greater New York reported a "very positive" and "spontaneous" reaction from some people over the Army's refusal to sign a promise to obey a ban on anti-gay discrimination, according to the *New York Times*.

Early this year, the Army refused to sign Mayor Ed Koch's Executive Order 50 which protects the employment rights of gay men and lesbians and consequently the Army lost \$4 million in contracts for child-care services. The Army maintained that although it did not discriminate, there were certain positions for which it would not hire gay people.

Since then, 150 people have donated more than \$16,000 to the city's Salvation Army, according to Lt. Col. Wallace C. Conrath. A half-dozen church and parent groups have mailed in copies of protest petitions they circulated and sent to Koch.

Conrath is determined that the Army get along without the city's support and said those programs now without funding will be restructured and funded through "outreach to the community."

'morality, decency are state interests'

NEW ORLEANS — Amarillo, Texas District Attorney Danny Hill has asked the Fifth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals to overturn a 1982 ruling that threw out Texas' anti-sodomy law, according to the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*.

Lawyers for Hill argued that no amount of privacy or consent can make homosexual activity a constitutional right. They claimed that Don Baker, who successfully challenged the constitutionality of the law, was not eligible to bring suit. They said that the privacy of homosexuals was not a legitimate constitutional right and "morality and decency are legitimate state interests."

U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer of Dallas ruled in 1982 the law was unconstitutional and he denied several appeals to reopen the case.

boylove journal

SAN FRANCISCO — Artwork, poetry, short stories or essays are sought for the *NAMBLA Journal*. Material should deal with man/boy or other child/adult sexual or intimate relationships of an erotic or romantic nature. Familiarity with NAMBLA's ideals and principles would be helpful to writers and artists. The editors seek works that affirm the need for liberation, particularly sexual liberation, for all. Racist, sexist, or ageist material will not be accepted.

The deadline is June 30; items under 4000 words are preferred. Send photocopies only and include a SASE. Send materials to: Journal Committee, S.F. NAMBLA, 537 Jones St. #8414, San Francisco, CA 94102.

AIDS

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AIDS might be spread through blood transfusions, therefore politicizing the discovery of a method to screen blood from donors.

The statement issued by the National Gay Task Force concludes, "A new optimism must be coupled with a recognition of the amount of work that still remains to be done. Major increases in funding are still needed. We look forward to supplemental requests from the Public Health Service for the fiscal years 1984 and 1985 budget now

before Congress."

Others cautioned against believing that the crisis to the gay and lesbian community had passed. John Hennay, director of Washington's AIDS Education Fund, expressed a fear that "people will ease up on the precautions that people have taken in the last two years. We've already had calls asking if it's now safe to resume having multiple partners. Another caller wanted to know where he could be vaccinated."

Hennay advises gay men to continue indefinitely to follow the risk reduction recommendations

issued in the past. These include: reducing the number of sexual partners; reducing the use of alcohol and drugs; using condoms; engaging in sexual activities that do not involve exchanging body fluids; and watching for unexplained changes in your body and your partner's.

Clearly, there is reason for the gay and lesbian community to be pleased with this latest announcement. But more research and development into treating and ultimately curing this disease is needed before the end of the tunnel will be in sight.

City

Continued from page 1

they would like to live it." A motorcycle accident on May 10 left LaFlamme with a badly sprained ankle and on doctor's orders to stay off the job for the next 21 work days. After his ankle had healed and he had been back on the job for over a month, LaFlamme received a letter from Acting Deputy Commissioner Kaigler.

"This letter is to inform you that I am contemplating action against you," read the letter, "including discharge, removal, sus-

pension for a period exceeding five (5) days without pay, transfer from office of employment or lowering in rank or compensation...."

That July 12 letter was the first indication LaFlamme ever received, formally or otherwise, that his use of sick leave following the motorcycle accident had come under question. LaFlamme was later to find that Kaigler's letter was prompted by a memo sent by the director of his department, John Noyes, to Manuel Horne, an official in the hospital's Labor

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News Notes compiled by Sue Hyde.

'No' Means No

Big Dan's Rape Trial: Sorting It Out

By Ann Holder

BOSTON — The Big Dan's rape case and efforts to organize the New Bedford community in response to it prompted some heated debate at a recent forum with representatives from the Coalition Against Sexist Violence, an associate of the Committee for Justice and members of the local left and feminist communities. The forum, entitled "You Are Not Alone," took place on April 19 at Boston University and included two speakers from the Coalition, a speaker "sympathetic" to the Committee and two videotapes which documented the work of both groups in the New Bedford community.

New Bedford women organized the Coalition Against Sexist Violence after the initial reports of the rape at Big Dan's, the neighborhood bar where a woman was raped by several men on a pool table while other bar patrons stood by passively or encouraged the rapists. The Committee for Justice got together in response to the trial and to the discrimination against the Portuguese immigrant community which organizers believe the case exemplified.

Both groups organized protest marches. The Coalition organized a candlelight vigil immediately after the rape to protest violence against all people, but especially against women, while the Committee for Justice helped to organize a march immediately after the verdict to protest the trials and discrimination against the Portuguese community. The videotapes included footage of those marches and interviews with the organizers.

Viola P. Pires, from the New Bedford Women's Center, and Darlene Wheeler, from the New Bedford YWCA, represented the Coalition. Pires emphasized that members of the Coalition "cared about the people of New Bedford." That city has always been home for people of "many different cultures, many different backgrounds," she said and "we've always seen that as something of strength, not a weakness."

Pires described the march organized by the Coalition: "We were people of color, we were white, we were old, we were young, we were gay, we were straight, we were everything and we all got together and said we are against violence against all people and especially rape, which has been ignored for so many years. And now, here it's right in front of your face, deal with it."

While the march responded to the rape at Big Dan's, it also responded to all violence experienced by all women. Pires believes the rape at Big Dan's "didn't come out of hate," but out of "society's acceptance of women being looked at as second class citizens" and a cultural tradition in which women are expected to stay at home, in which women in bars are looked at as "fallen women, bad women, one who doesn't care." The Coalition, according to Pires, affirms that a woman can do whatever she wants with her life but "the minute she says no, she said no."

Pires believes the media focused on New Bedford because it is "a very depressed area." Citizens of New Bedford, she said, are challenging its image as "pit city." Through the march and the Coalition's ongoing efforts, "New Bedford has made its statement," that rape and violence are not tolerated in that community.

Darlene Wheeler listed the objectives of the Coalition: to establish a rape crisis center; to pass legislation holding witnesses accountable for failure to report the crime; to require sensitivity training for police and hospital personnel in dealing with women who have been raped; and, finally, to



Passersby and demonstrators listen to a speaker at an April 21 anti-rape protest in Boston's Downtown Crossing. The Women's Committee of the Rainbow Coalition and the Cambridge Women's Center organized the demonstration to protest the Big Dan's rape in New Bedford last March.

monitor the Big Dan's trial to protect the victim's rights. This latter goal was especially important, said Wheeler, in this case where the rape shield laws "were skirted." The Coalition accomplished these objectives, according to Wheeler, and she added that they will continue to educate people about rape and the myths which surround it.

Pires read the Coalition statement of philosophy which emphasizes the importance of representing the entire spectrum of the New Bedford community. It opposes rape and violence against all women and stresses the need to "recognize that because of racism, women of color have been and continue to be affected differently than white women by sexist violence." Pires added that women must be angry, they "must stand up and say they will not put up with this."

In "Stop Rape," the video that followed, organizers from the Coalition said the march participants "were in solidarity with this young woman, we were in solidarity with women who never come forward." They hoped the march conveyed the message "if you get raped you're not going to be alone." The solution to rape and sexist violence, they said, "is to empower women."

Following the video, Jackie VanLeeuwen spoke about the position of the Committee for Justice. She repeatedly distanced herself from the Committee itself, saying she was not its representative. She agreed to speak because she was in "sympathy with the charges of discrimination." Members of the Committee were occupied with deportation proceedings against the defendants and unable to attend the forum.

VanLeeuwen hoped the forum would provide some "perspective on the divisions between the women's movement, as represented by the Coalition and the Women's Center, and the Portuguese community." She was "disturbed by the response to the march of the Portuguese community" on the part of the women's community.

Women, she said, have a "responsibility to look at how, in fact, rape has been used historically in discriminatory ways." She mentioned the Scottsboro case and the Willie Sanders case in Boston. Sanders, a black man arrested in 1979 for multiple rapes, was mis-identified and eventually cleared of all charges.

"A lot of what I had to challenge in myself," she said, "was the whole perspective that if a woman claims she's been raped, she's right and that's all there is to

it... If we're going to be principled within our own movement, then we have to question a possibility a woman could be wrong...."

VanLeeuwen raised the issue of media coverage which sensationalized the Big Dan's case. She believes that coverage was affected by the men being Portuguese immigrants. Speaking of the women's community, she said, "We have to take responsibility for what the press was willing to go after and the history of discrimination in New Bedford courts about immigrant communities."

She also charged that witnesses were "threatened with deportation if they did not tell the story of the police and the D.A." Virgilio Medeiros, one of the defendants, "withstood a lot of pressure to lie." Finally, she asked, "Why is this rape being made such an extreme issue in the women's movement?"

The second video, "Justice Crucified," identified the issue of prejudice against immigrants in New Bedford. Organizers of the march in the Portuguese community believed the press created "such a strong impression in people's minds it would be hard to get a fair trial." Speaking of the Portuguese community, one man said, "we are good people... we should be seen as decent people." In response to charges that the demonstration was pro-rape, one organizer said people who protest a verdict have never been perceived as supporting the crime.

Immediately after the second video, discussion began and a man from the audience asked the speakers to be more explicit about the differences between their groups. VanLeeuwen responded by challenging the Coalition to address the charges of discrimination. She accused the women's movement of complicity by its silence.

Pires responded: "I don't feel like I have to sit up here and defend the media," adding that she was defending the Coalition. If the march had been for Portuguese pride, she said, "we would have held our signs high."

To me there is no division as far as the Coalition is concerned," Pires continued. "The Committee for Justice has the divisions, and they marched that day saying one, for pride and one, we were against the case. Well that's why we did not march, we were not against these men going on trial. And I think the evidence clearly shows it was against this woman's will. She said no, she cried out, and the rape still occurred and there were many men in that bar who did nothing."

Susan Bernstein

Wheeler explained that the Coalition took a strong stand a year ago, asking for air time on radio WVSM to respond to the ethnic slurs heard on that station's talk show. Their position was that these remarks should not be allowed on the air and that ethnicity should not be a factor in whether the men came to trial. The Coalition also wrote letters to the New Bedford *Standard Times*, according to Wheeler, clarifying their position. Wheeler believes the Coalition took a strong stand against discrimination from the outset.

A woman from the audience asked whether the Committee believed there had been a rape in the bar with at least ten men watching. Although VanLeeuwen said she was not able to represent the position of the Committee, she knew "they don't feel they should be the judge and jury." Committee members believe there should be a new trial. She said that in her personal opinion, "there was consensual sex in the bar and then it went too far and she was raped," adding, "I think that she did have some responsibility."

Ruth McCambridge, from the Coalition of Battered Women's Services, challenged VanLeeuwen's comparison of Big Dan's to Scottsboro and Willie Sanders. "In the Willie Sanders case there were large portions of the women's community who worked on that defense because they felt that it was an unfair case."

She added that VanLeeuwen needed to "separate what responsibility you give to the women's community and what responsibility you give to the press and to the criminal justice system." There was discrimination in the press, she said, but it was not "practiced by the women's community... we do not need to minimize the kind of harm that was done to that woman, being a Portuguese woman, and that was done to all women in her name." Moreover, McCambridge thought it was appropriate to criticize marchers protesting the verdict who were quoted in the Boston *Globe* as saying the woman led the men into sin, or that the woman should be jailed rather than the men.

In response to VanLeeuwen's statements about the media damage to the men involved, au-

dience member Madge Kaplan pointed out that the woman was also dragged daily through the press "in a particular way" that was "objectionable... an insult to all women."

VanLeeuwen said it was the "discrimination in ourselves" which prevented us from challenging the media's focus on the immigrant backgrounds of the defendants. Viola Pires replied that it was "outrageous" to suggest that women were speaking out on Big Dan's because the defendants were Portuguese, saying it was the extreme nature of the case and the fact that it happened in a public place which caused the feminists' response.

Nancy Wechsler, from GCN, spoke as a "feminist and a leftist" to address why she thought the Committee for Justice had organized around this trial. She identified a small section of the left which framed an ideology that "feminism is racism." She suspected the Committee had in it members, or former members, of those groups [the Philadelphia Workers Organizing Committee and the Boston Organizing Committee] and "used this particular issue to feed those politics," which she called ultimately divisive.

Liz Bennett, from the New Bedford Women's Center, described what she called a "people's movement" in New Bedford, led primarily by women. She agreed with Wechsler that the Committee's choice of Big Dan's was divisive of that movement, which she said cut across all races, classes and ethnic backgrounds. This case, she said, was "not a Scottsboro, not a Willie Sanders, not an Emmett Till, not one more case of rape and racism as we have known it, that's not what's happening in New Bedford."

Chris Counihan organized and moderated the forum. He expressed the hope that the forum, while airing differences, would also help identify "common interests" among the participants. Counihan, in collaboration with Bill Raptly, produced the videos "Stop Rape" and "Justice Crucified," screened at the forum. Counihan hopes eventually to make a more comprehensive videotape of the entire trial and its impact on the community in New Bedford.

Jade McGleughlin also contributed to this article.



'No' means no.

Susan Bernstein

Community Voices

personal turmoils

Dear GCN Prisoner Project,

Your affectionate letter was received, which really made my day (smile).

Oh, yes, I have received two GCN Newsletters. After reading GCN over a few times before passing them over to a friend, I have to say that I am amazed how I was able to comprehend the articles, how straightforward and in-depth they express themselves. Needless to say GCN definitely has a good future ahead of itself. Please continue the good work, GCN.

I have a strong need to express to you if possible some experiences I have had and some personal turmoils in prison. I committed second degree robbery to get money for a sex change operation. I was sentenced to an all male facility. I am a transvestite-transsexual since 11 years old. I am not gay but have had some wonderful relationships. Prior to my incarceration I was employed and living as a full-time woman.

It's very hard here in such an environment, especially when there is a prejudice against me and individuals like me because people do not understand our needs, desires, etc. The only difference between gays and bisexuals and me is they prefer their own sex, and have no doubt about their gender. Male transsexuals, according to the guidelines established by the medical clinic on Rikers Island for New York City incarcerated transsexuals, are individuals who have a gender identity problem. This person as myself is a person though genotypically a male feels like and behaves as a member of the opposite sex. I feel that I am a woman in spirit and the only problem I see is the characteristics of masculinity and having male genitals.

While I was living in Portland, Maine I was engaged to a guy who is gay, who I truly had strong feelings for. I never felt so secure and comfortable with anyone else. David and I separated after 5 months because he had a bad drinking problem. I cried for weeks and still do sometimes. We had a wonderful relationship. I am afraid to get too close to guys in prison, though there is a guy in lockup here I really like a lot, but we can talk only thru a back vent, and knowing others can listen I am shy and we can't say somethings. He's gay and really turns me on, but I don't know. I used to have a tendency to give my heart, soul, body and mind so easily, but in here some inmates look to have a relationship based on so little knowledge that they don't have anything in mind but themselves.

Gay Community News welcomes letters to Community Voices. If at all possible, your letters should be TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED and kept to three pages (or less!) in length.

I am so upset with all the things this prison has put me thru. I know that a positive attitude is most important but after a year and still trying to seek all the things I need to become what I am and still no consideration from these people I can see only one way and that is go on a hunger strike. I hope you're able to understand how important this is to me. Please feel free to write me any time. And if you would put something in the newsletter about me so someone might write regularly I would greatly appreciate it. It could say: Young, attractive, intelligent, understanding and very sensitive male TV-TS who has a sincere and honest heart, who loves and enjoys corresponding with sincere, honest males, please write to Tammy Lynn White, No. 908787, PO Box 316, Ft. Madison, IA 52627.

I really hope my ad gets out. Some of my interests are modeling, photography, mountain packing, sail-boating, traveling, art, and studying law, and all kinds of music, especially Fleetwood Mac. My plans are to undergo sex change surgery, adopt two children, and live in Maine.

Thank you very dearly,
Tammy Lynn White,
Ft. Madison, IA

helping us on our way

To the Editor

I've been enthusiastically reading articles about women's music by Maida Tilchen for several years. Reading her recent article about music by "progressive straight men" (in the 4/21/84 issue) and her review of seven recently-released albums by women (in the 1/21/84 issue), I realized, to my delight, that her vision, like the visions of many of us, is becoming broader, more tolerant and compassionate.

As Maida points out so articulately, hope for our (and everyone else's) future seems to lie in our (and everybody else's) ability and willingness to explore the themes of "friendship and working together,...what can be learned from people other than ourselves, and how to deal with our societally-embedded prejudices."

Maida's articles, and the music she talks about in them, are helping us on our way.

Thanks.

Susan Graetz
Ithaca, New York

ohio help!

Dear GCN,

I'm a prisoner in the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville. I'm writing because I need help; I should say because "we" need help, for there is another woman here experiencing the same such injustices. There's a probability that there are more here than us that need the same help but are unaware of your address.

I know that Boston is quite a distance from here but I'm not in contact with any local organizations here and would appreciate your helping me get in touch. (Gay papers are limited here and kept at a low key.)

My friend is gay. (We're best friends.) Our problem is we're being subjected to harsh prejudices — punishment — labeled and provoked. Here you can be placed on a "36" (escape or attempt to escape) on mere hearsay; something that is definitely illegal, or should be, but if you have no one to defend you, well, they can do just about anything to you. I know, I've received most of their "treatments."

My friend and I were placed on a 36 for discussing a story that Steven King wrote called "The Mist." Given no hearing or informal hearing; just placed on it because an inmate told the staff that we were discussing a way to escape! We have no knowledge of who the inmate was or who the staff member was who was told. My friend is denied to continue her education in here because of it. I am also denied this. We are not permitted a training either.

My friend has also been accused of going with a staff member, for which she lost her job — all hearsay. The staff member was forced to write a bad conduct report on her to prove to the prison officials that she was innocent of said hearsay and that it was my friend's infatuation with her. She's kept her job because of this lie. As I said my friend lost hers. Needless to say a lot of other things have happened to because of our involvement with women.

I would appreciate any help you can give me even if it's only to inform me that there are organizations here in Ohio that I can contact or people who will write (just to let the prison officials know that we are not completely alone and uncared about by anyone.)

Thank you very much,

Carol Persinger,
16643 C

Washington
1479 Collins Ave.
Marysville, OH 43040.

Speak Your Mind! In Community Voices

Typesetter/Features Staffer

Gay Community News is looking for a full-time typesetter/features staffer. Responsibilities include: coordinating the typesetting of, and typesetting GCN; coordinating, along with a freelance typesetter, GCN's outside typesetting business; working with the features editor on an array of projects which could include: the calendar, art, lay-out, writing articles or reviews.

Typesetting experience helpful, good touch-typing skills essential. Commitment to feminism and social change and a willingness to work in a collective setting. People of color especially encouraged to apply. \$150/week, three weeks paid vacation, health insurance. Send applications to Gordon Gottlieb, GCN, 167 Tremont Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111, or call (617) 426-4469 for more information.

Features Editor

Gay Community News is looking for a full-time Features Editor. Responsibilities include editing features section, monthly book supplements, several additional supplements, weekly calendar (in collaboration with Calendar Editor). Knowledge of lesbian and gay community important; editing and writing skills essential; previous journalism experience helpful. Commitment to feminism and social change and a willingness to work in a collective setting. People of color especially encouraged to apply. \$150/week, three weeks paid vacation, health insurance. Send applications by April 30 to Cindy Patton, GCN, 167 Tremont Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111, or call (617) 426-4469 for more information.

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NEW YORK DISTRIBUTION

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Gay Community News (GCN) is dedicated to providing coverage of events and news of interest to the gay community. GCN is published every week (except the first week of January and the last week of August) by a non-profit corporation. All material copyright © 1984, Bromfield Street Educational Foundation, Inc., all rights reserved, reprint by permission only. Our office is located at 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. (617) 426-4469.

Second-class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Annual subscription rate is \$29. ISSN: 0147-0728. Member New England Press Association, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. COSMEP Member.

GCN is included in the Alternative Press Index, which is published quarterly by the Alternative Press Center, Inc., Box 7229, Baltimore, MD 21218.

Volumes 1-10 of GCN are available on microfilm for \$22/volume. Write GCN/Microfilm for more information.

Opinions reflected in "editorial" represent the views of the editorial board. Signed letters and columns reflect the views and opinions of the authors only. Comments, criticisms and information are always welcome from our readers: remember, it's YOUR paper!

Postmaster: Send address changes to Gay Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111.

AIDS Resource List

AIDS Action Committee — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115, 267-7573

Education and support group for people with AIDS, their families, lovers, friends and health care providers. Provides speakers, conducts forums, rap groups, hospice-trained volunteers, hotline information and referrals. Associated with the Fenway Community Health Center.

AIDS Action Line — 536-7733

AIDS Action Committee service, information, referrals and befriending about AIDS. Trained volunteers.

AIDS Benefit Review Committee

(267-7573) or (725-4849)

Joint subcommittee of Mayor's Committee on AIDS and AIDS Action Committee to coordinate AIDS fundraisers, monitor process and review results. All groups of individuals planning AIDS fundraisers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the subcommittee.

AIDS Hotline — (424-5916)

The Community Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program of the City of Boston. Staff of public health nurses answer questions about AIDS, make referrals. Collects city-wide data from hospitals on AIDS cases, forwards data to Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, officially determines number of cases probable and under investigation.

Fenway Community Health Center

16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115 (267-7573)

Hotline information, medical work-ups, diagnosis, referrals, counseling. A gay sensitive health care facility. Participates in research efforts.

Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services

600 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111 (542-5118)

Gay and Lesbian Hotline — 6:00 pm to midnight, M-F (426-9371)

Provides information on AIDS, makes referrals. Associated with Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services.

Haitian Committee on AIDS in Massachusetts — 117 Harvard Street, Dorchester, MA 02124 (436-2808)

Provides information, referrals, support and emergency assistance to Haitians with AIDS and their families.

Mayor's Committee on AIDS — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)

Coordinates efforts of federal, state, and city health agencies, produces educational material, collects data on cases, reviews policy. Umbrella organization. Media outlet. Conducts forums and provides speakers, distributes AIDS brochures, referrals.

National Gay Task Force Hotline

(1-800-221-7044)

Toll free national hotline run by NGTF to provide information and referrals.

Omega Hospice and Bereavement Program 270 Washington Street, Somerville, MA 02143 (776-6369)

Ongoing free support group for gay men and lesbians dealing with life-threatening illness.

Springfield Downtown Ministry /Council of Churches — 293 Bridge Street Room 205, Springfield, MA 01103-1402 (737-4125)

Counseling and referrals.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Maintains a statewide surveillance system on AIDS cases and close contact with the Centers for Disease Control. Does follow-up of diagnosed cases, makes referrals, provides information on AIDS.

Speaking Out In Support of Kathy Boudin

Almost sixty years ago Constance de Markiewicz, an Irish patriot and feminist, sat in her cell writing a letter to her sister. She was awaiting trial for her role in an armed uprising aimed at securing Ireland's independence from Great Britain. Many of her comrades had already been executed when she used the image of "another jail-bird, a thrush" who had frozen to death after trusting in a false spring to reflect on her own predicament: "Was he right to rejoice, or was he all wrong?/ Do hope and faith but to fools belong? Is courage all a mistake?"

Constance de Markiewicz escaped execution, was elected to parliament, and repeatedly jailed for her unswerving commitment to the oppressed. She stands in a long tradition of women that includes Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, Mother Jones and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Lolita Lebron, Winnie Mandela and countless others whose resolute opposition to all forms of injustice strengthens us daily. We recognize Kathy Boudin as a daughter of that tradition; we embrace her as a sister.

Kathy was arrested in October, 1981, after spending twelve years underground. Her trial on charges of felony murder and robbery in connection with an attempted hold-up of a Brink's truck is in progress in White Plains, New York. If convicted, she faces a maximum of three life sentences, with no realistic possibility of parole. Ever.

We are signing and circulating this letter because we identify with Kathy's history, and with her commitment to fight racism, sexism, and the oppression of all working and poor people. We urge you to join us in counteracting the government's efforts to silence, isolate and punish her by publicly showing support, coming to the trial, and taking the other actions suggested at the end of this letter.

For the past two and a half years, Kathy has been locked in a series of county jails designed to keep people for days or weeks until they make bail. Whenever not isolated from other women by prison officials, Kathy has banded together with her sister prisoners to fight for sanitary living spaces, adequate food, light and exercise. Her efforts have already contributed to improvements at two jails, particularly in the conditions under which prisoners who, like Kathy, are mothers, visit their small children.

The government and sensationalistic media have distorted just about everything connected with this case, portraying those arrested as violence-crazed "terrorists," totally ignoring their long and complex political histories. We believe that while principled criticism is certainly called for, wholesale condemnation and disassociation can only weaken our movements. And we believe that if you knew Kathy better, and had an opportunity to talk with her face to face, you would agree with us that literally sentencing her to die in prison would be both unjust and a loss to us all.

Because anything she says about the events that led to her arrest can be used against her, Kathy is not free to answer the legitimate questions that many of us have. It is clear that she recognizes and suffers from the tragic mistakes that were made. At the same time, she maintains a principled stand of non-collaboration, keeping silent about others as well as her own years underground. We respect and support her in this stand. And she has consistently emphasized her political commitment and her intention to continue living out that commitment, regardless of her circumstances. Shortly after her arrest, she wrote to a friend:

I want to stand for a white person who does not want the crimes committed in the name of white people against Black people to be committed in my name. To be someone who has tried to act in such a way as to define a relationship of solidarity with Black people. Someone who believes both in the justness of the Black struggle for liberation and freedom and believes that this struggle provides an important path for change for everyone in this country. It is like a plow, stirring up all that lies before it.

Three people who were charged with her — Kuwasi Bulagoon, Judith Clark and David Gilbert did not contest the evidence against them. They told the jury that they were engaged in a struggle for Black liberation which included a demand for the recognition of a separate Black nation and were, therefore, entitled to be tried only under international law. They described the attempt to take money from the Brink's truck as an expropriation, intended as reparations due a community suffering from government cutbacks and increasingly militant racism.

Bulagoon, Clark and Gilbert each received maximum sentences — seventy-five years to life. Kathy's trial was separated from theirs because of her decision to use traditional legal methods to show that she was never armed, was not present when money was taken from the Brink's truck, and was already under arrest when two police officers were killed.

Kathy came to politics early. Her mother is a poet active in anti-militarist movements from Kathy's early childhood, her father a lawyer who represented many of the targets of the vicious anti-communism of the McCarthy era. As a high-school student she marched in ban-the-bomb demonstrations and visited revolutionary Cuba. Former classmates at Bryn Mawr College remember her as a person who demonstrated against segregated schools, organized civil rights conferences and changed their understanding of the significance of racism and the importance of the civil rights movement.

In the mid-sixties, Kathy worked in Cleveland, Ohio as a welfare rights organizer. The courage and strength of the single mothers she worked with there remain a vivid inspiration to her to this day. In 1968, Kathy left Cleveland to be a full-time organizer for Students for a Democratic Society in the anti-war and anti-draft movements. In addition to doing draft counselling, she co-authored the *Bust Book*, containing advice for activists being arrested in ever-increasing numbers in connection with militant anti-war demonstrations around the country. Her contact with many people fighting injustices on many fronts nourished her belief that it is possible to transform a bigoted, corrupt and violent world order into one that respects human potential and fosters self-determination for all people.

The beliefs that mobilized millions during the mid-sixties were sorely tested by the repression that became evident by the end of that decade. By the time National Guardsmen opened fire on unarmed student anti-war protesters at Kent and Jackson State universities, the FBI's COINTELPRO program had already been undermining every visible Black leader and movement. Informers and provocateurs were placed near the heart of virtually every significant left-of-center movement and every Third World community and organization. Many of the most charismatic and important Black leaders had been jailed on false charges, forced into exile, or assassinated.

It was at this point, shortly after the death of three friends in a bomb explosion, that Kathy Boudin and other members of Students for a Democratic Society went underground, to continue and deepen the work of resistance. The Weather Underground conducted a campaign of property destruction aimed against the government and corporate targets that symbolized U.S. involvement in the war in Southeast Asia, police brutality, and other forms of repression in this country. Although numerous offices were bombed, such care was taken to avoid injury that not one person was ever hurt as a result of those actions.

While underground, Kathy also read and studied about the early feminist and abolitionist movements, and she published several poems in an anthology of women's poetry:

"Underground is not the right word
it makes it seem too simple,
as if there is an easy way to disappear
a place to go."
— from *For Assata Shakur*

"And when a sister went on trial, Jacoba for example,
Even lovers among witches
must have disagreed over what would be
her best defense."
— from *Sisterhood is Not Magic*

By 1981 many of the women who had been underground had either been arrested, jailed and released, or had surfaced and remained free. Today Susan Saxe, Emily Harris, Bernardine Dohrn, Kathy Wilkerson, Eleanor Stein, Shoshanna Rinn, Mary Moylan, Angela Davis, and many other women work with us, enriching our communities and movements with their dedication, energies, and experience. Kathy Boudin, however, remained underground, despite a desire for broader dialogue and participation in the community of women, because she believed that her remaining underground was symbolic of resistance at a time when mass movements were not strong.

The government's treatment of Kathy and all those arrested in connection with this case — segregated housing in special "secure" units of jails and prisons, the use of paramilitary uniforms, the display of weapons, dogs and horses in and around the court-houses, and the prosecutor's appeal for the re-instatement of the death penalty — all demonstrate that the government is using this series of trials to reinforce its own political lessons. In 1976 lesbian feminist Susan Saxe wrote of her own trial:

The political trial has throughout history been the tool of the government, the stage upon which it demonstrates what it will tolerate and what it will crush, the blackboard on which it draws the line that it dares us to cross. The political trial has also, therefore, served as the crucible within which all political movements have had to test their strength, determine their direction, and come out on one side or the other.

In Kathy's case, the government will not say a word or introduce a single piece of evidence about politics — unless Kathy raises the issue in her defense. The prosecution hopes to rely on the prejudice inherent in the sensationalized publicity and the "security circus" surrounding the trial to communicate the idea that her ideas are dangerous while pretending that the incident itself was, from the beginning, devoid of any political objective or motive.

At the conclusion of the first trial, Kuwasi Bulagoon told his jury, speaking of those with whom he is committed to fighting for an independent Black nation:

We are human, and nobody wants to live under or bring up offspring into a confined atmosphere with an artificial sky. . . . We have a right to live, live on our own terms in a common area, and to govern ourselves, free of occupation forces such as the police . . ."

The prosecutor expected — and received — no criticism from the judge for referring to him as a "thug."

We cannot fight against the injustices and corruption that characterize the U.S. government while permitting it to cut off others who have dedicated themselves to the same struggle by saying, "This one went too far. That one is a terrorist." This is the goal of the forces of reaction: to obtain a license to define the terms of our struggle by dividing and isolating us in defensive poses.

Many trials of political activists have involved actions that were the result of deep political and/or strategic errors. We need not defend the errors or deny the tragedy of the situation to support someone on trial for acts that are clearly motivated by political and not selfish concerns. Our first duty is to draw the line between those who benefit from oppression and those who are punished for resisting it, and stand with the latter.

Placing ourselves on the side of those resisting oppression does not imply uncritical support. Our solidarity is an empty show if we do not ask the hard questions, follow the criticisms though to their logical conclusions, modify our own political work and redouble our efforts in response to perceived errors. Kathy's presence at the roadblock where two policemen were killed and money from the Brink's truck was recovered raises many questions that cannot be answered before trial. But more important than these are the large questions about ideology, strategy and tactics raised by what we already know about the stated objectives of the action.

Many of us believe that no amount of money was worth risking the four lives lost and many others disrupted as a result of this attempt. (The fourth life lost — that of Mtari Shabaka at the hands of police — is rarely reported, much less lamented.) Public statements to the effect that the objective was to acquire funds for a Black underground raise many questions. What were the objectives of that movement? Why did it tolerate heavy corruption and a low level of political dialogue with active supporters? Is militarism endemic to such structures? Is sexism?

There are even harder questions we must all ask ourselves: what has become of the widespread enthusiasm and support among white people for Black and other Third World liberation struggles that characterized Kathy's early experiences? Why have the white veterans of the civil rights movement so often failed to translate their experience into themes that would mobilize white poor and working people? Why have most of our movements failed to mobilize poor, working class and people of color together towards common goals? Why are women's issues continually and consistently dropped from revolutionary as well as reform strategies, and why are women's leadership and problem-solving styles and abilities consistently rejected?

As we begin, or continue this process of critical evaluation, building and rebuilding our movements, we must never lose sight of the major issue on which we have virtually unanimous agreement: the global economic and political "order" obtaining today permits a few governments and corporations to rule the world by terror.

We owe it to ourselves to remind each other — and the rest of the media-consuming public — that the people charged with the Brink's action bombed no civilian population, committed no nineteen-year olds to war; they destabilized no popular government, cut off no foodstamps, deprived no one of decent housing or education, and condemned no woman to back-alley abortion. They did not squander the world's wealth and condemn the majority of its people to live in poverty.

Your support of Kathy Boudin is an important part of a process of struggle, re-evaluation and, hopefully, new levels of understanding. In addition to having an important effect on the trial, it can help create a stronger unity among all of those who oppose government by terror, who fight, muddle, make tragic mistakes, but never conclude that "hope and faith but to fools belong," or that courage is "all a mistake."

You can show your support by:

- signing and circulating this statement;
- writing to Friends of Kathy Boudin, 163 Joralemon St., Suite 1370, Brooklyn, NY 11201 for literature and information about the trial;
- sending donations to Friends of Kathy Boudin;
- attending the trial in White Plains (call 212-624-5921 for information)
- write to Kathy, c/o Suite 1610, 30 E. 42nd St., New York, NY 10017

Kathy's arrest was a hard blow to many of us who worked with her many years ago and many who never knew her, but were inspired by her spirit and dedication. Her incarceration deprives us of her presence and energy, but not her intelligence and commitment. She will be struggling with us, reaching out and working for freedom and justice no matter where she is. We appeal to you to join with us in working to match her dedication, and to make her a part of our community.

Signed by:

Byrna M. Aronson, Boston
Linda Backiel, Philadelphia
Nancy Barrett, Brooklyn
Ellen Barry, San Francisco
Sonie Detman, Boston
Arlene Eisen, San Francisco
Marge Grevatt, Cleveland
Mary Harding, Washington, D.C.
Faith Holsaert, West Virginia
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Buffalo Council Overrides Rights Veto

By Christine Guilfooy

BUFFALO, NY — The Buffalo Common Council has quietly passed an amendment banning discrimination against lesbians and gay men in city employment. Although the amendment was vetoed by Mayor James Griffin, the Council overrode the veto on April 17 by a decisive 9 to 2 vote.

In addition to covering city workers, the measure would also provide protection to employees of firms which have contracts with the city. A similar ordinance led to New York City's severing of contracts with the Salvation Army when it refused to pledge non-discrimination.

The Buffalo ordinance bans discrimination "against any person with respect to age, race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability or marital status."

Unlike many cities which have passed or attempted to pass similar measures, the Buffalo amendment went through with little opposition and without the active participation of organizations within the gay community.

The amendment was suggested by two gay men who did not want their names to be publicized. Both reportedly have ties with the Common Council and they brought the suggestion to Council president George Arthur.

The amendment was introduced to the council, and without a public hearing it won by a 9-4 vote on April 3. Mayor Griffin's April 16 veto was overridden the next day.

Joel Giambra, a member of the

council and one of the co-sponsors of the amendment, said that he believes the council acted in response to homophobic comments Griffin made last summer, when he referred to gay men as "fruits" and "fags." Giambra said the council acted to alleviate anxiety which this may have provoked in the city's gay employees.

Tom Hammond, a spokesperson for the Buffalo Gay Professionals, said, "The mayor's comments about 'fruits' had something to do with this thing. There's a lot of resistance to the mayor. He's helped the city grow in one way but detracted in others. He's had his foot in his mouth before about other minorities. The council balances that act. [They] want to show that Buffalo can be a class act."

Hammond, along with Don Rosenthal of the Lesbian/Gay Community Center, speculated that Council President George Arthur is interested in running for mayor and is building his constituency. Hammond said that Arthur had appeared before the Gay Professionals seeking support in last November's election. And one of the initiators of the amendment said that a large number of gay people attended a \$50 a plate fundraiser for Arthur. This man said Arthur, who is black, appears to be developing a coalition of minorities modeled on Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition.

From the time the amendment was introduced until the time that it passed, there was no public debate within the council and little

publicity. Hammond told GCN "[Two] individuals decided it was a good thing to do and the right time to do it. There was no action on the organizational level but there was reaction."

He said that once the amendment was introduced, there was an informal effort by organizations to get people to write letters of support to their councilpersons. He also said the Gay Professionals agreed to support the low profile strategy and made no public statements about the measure until it was finally approved.

One of the initiators of the measure said, "I think the quiet aspect of [the process] helped. If people had started marching, it could have brought out the reactionary forces." He added that the number of people involved was limited because to have opened up the process might have resulted in community members wanting to widen the scope of the amendment or to encourage more discussion. He believes that this would have harmed the amendment's chances.

Giambra said that the fact that Buffalo's Catholic bishop did not actively oppose the measure was a positive factor in its passage.

Hammond summed up his feeling about the amendment by saying, "For a lot of gay city employees and employees in private firms which do contract work for the city, it will bring a sigh of relief. It gives everybody a message. The time to discriminate is over."

— filed from Boston

Hospital

Continued from page 2

Relations office. But, LaFlamme says, neither Noyes nor his more immediate superiors had mentioned a problem with his sick leave following the accident.

Kaigler's letter informed LaFlamme that a hearing would be held on July 20 to investigate two charges. One, headed "Excessive absenteeism," stated that LaFlamme had been "absent from work for a period of twenty-one (21) days." The other, headed "Abuse of sick leave," alleged that "during the five-month period January 1 through June 1, 1983, you have been observed working at another place of employment other than the Boston City Hospital, while on authorized sick leave. The 'place' in mention is named the 'Common Bostonian.'"

The Common Bostonian was a restaurant, partly owned by LaFlamme, across the street from the hospital. LaFlamme denies he ever worked at the restaurant, but explains that he did spend some time there during his sick leave: on the days he had to visit the hospital to have his ankle treated, his friend and business partner at the restaurant drove him from his home in Quincy to the hospital and then back again. He says he ate meals there, spent time waiting for his friend to drive him home, and may occasionally have briefly watched over the cash register while his friend was busy.

"The hearing was run like a railroad job," LaFlamme recalls. The city presented him with the charge, two months after the fact, that his supervisor had testified to seeing him in the restaurant and operating the cash register on May 17. Yet she had not said anything to him at the time, LaFlamme says, had never asked for an explanation, and was not present at the hearing. Furthermore, LaFlamme claims, his supervisor never entered the restaurant and the cash register was not visible from the outside.

Kaigler nonetheless issued a guilty finding and notified LaFlamme he had been terminated, just a week before the end of his probation period. "Although your sick time was authorized and you submitted documentation as to your illness," Kaigler wrote, "you were remanded to your home for the duration of your illness."

Because LaFlamme was fired, he was not immediately eligible for unemployment benefits. But he petitioned the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security for a hearing. An attorney represented the city at the first installment of that hearing, on September 13, but failed to show up for the November 4 continuance.

"I think they didn't show up because they didn't want a record of all the things they have done," said Cambridge attorney Lee Goldstein, who represented LaFlamme at that hearing.

In a strongly worded decision, Unemployment Examiner A.V. Pasquale found in favor of LaFlamme, noting that he had, with proper documentation, fully rebutted the charges made by the city. "The sick leave was documented by medical evidence and the employer was aware of the claimant's injury and inability to report for work," Pasquale wrote. "The claimant had no reason to believe his job was in jeopardy while he was on approved sick leave. . . . If the employer felt that an abuse of sick leave was evident, the employer did nothing to immediately correct the situation or otherwise notify the claimant that he was in violation of any rule."

LaFlamme also filed a grievance, through his union, contesting his firing. Two months after a hearing on that grievance, and six months after the grievance was first filed, the city's Labor Relations office upheld the charges. "[The] documentation amounted to only a small percentage of the grievant's overall absences," claimed hearing officer John

Marra. But Marra decided that the charges were not serious enough to warrant termination. Instead he recommended a six-month retroactive suspension without pay and demotion from R-9 back to R-4.

"Six months [suspension] is ludicrous because you missed some time for being in a motorcycle accident," responds Peter Hardie, union representative for Local 285. Hardie has asked that the case be sent to arbitration, the next stage in the grievance procedure. The union and the city are currently negotiating the choice of an arbitrator. In the meantime, LaFlamme's unemployment checks have run out.

LaFlamme told GCN he has also discussed the case with Deputy Personnel Director Ray Pizarro, who seemed to him more sympathetic than other city officials. Pizarro heard his story, LaFlamme says, and told him the city had left itself open for a lawsuit. Recalls LaFlamme: "He told me 'This isn't a mistake, this is criminal.'" Pizarro told GCN he was not free to comment on the case without clearance from the Mayor's Office.

Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn, who has ultimate authority over the city-owned hospital, has said that gay rights are an important part of his administration's program. A report recently released by Flynn's office assessing the first 100 days of the administration makes prominent mention of Flynn's executive order prohibiting discrimination in city employment on the basis of sexual orientation.

Asked about the case, Bob Finneran, Deputy Press Secretary to the Mayor, told GCN "We're siding with [LaFlamme]. He will be reinstated to his former position." But Finneran refused to elaborate or explain whether he meant LaFlamme would be reinstated to R-4 or R-9. And officials in the Labor Relations office and the Personnel Department refused comment altogether.

Women in Cinema: A Week of Celebration

By Michael Bronski

The really big movie-industry news this past month has been that the insipid, bone-headed *Police Academy*, with its jokes about big tits and dumb Blacks, grossed more than 11 million dollars within its first week of release. And that *Friday the 13th: the Final Chapter* had grossed more than eight million in its first three days.

The big news aside, here is the good news. New England Women in Film and Video is presenting a week-long festival of 35 films — shorts, features length and documentaries — written, produced or directed by women. Running from April 27 through May 3 the festival will be the largest and most comprehensive ever for Boston.

New England Women in Film and Video is a professional organization dedicated both to fostering knowledge of the visual arts and to enhancing the status of women within the culture. The first chapter of Women in Film was founded in 1973 in California. Chapters were soon established throughout the country; the New England chapter was founded in 1981 by screenwriter Harriet Reisen.

The film industry has traditionally treated women so badly and has so under-documented the experiences and contributions of women who functioned within it that it would be hard to find a single woman it would seem fitting to name a festival after. But in the past 90 years of American filming there is one name — little known as it is — that stands out: Dorothy Arzner. Well known in Hollywood during her career, the name of Dorothy Arzner is now seen as little more than a small chapter in contemporary works on women and films. Usually it is accompanied by one of the more famous pictures of her: looking butch and competent in a mannishly tailored suit, she stands next to a camera with megaphone in hand, giving orders on set.

It was because Arzner was perhaps the only woman in the industry to make any sort of name for herself that she is treated as a sort of freak. It is enough to actually look at her work and evaluate it the same way that film scholars pour over the works of Howard Hawkes or John Ford, frame by frame. But it is not only Arzner's femaleness which marks her for such treatment. Look at any picture of her. She looks butch, mannish... you know, like

a dyke. The general assumption which has grown up around Arzner is that she won at a man's game by playing it like a man. In a world in which sexual and gender assumptions are formed by a passing glance, Dorothy Arzner reaffirms most people's stereotypes of a successful woman.

But the films of Dorothy Arzner are nothing like the mass of hack work turned out in the first 30 years of Hollywood productions. Although she worked as a director for only 16 years and is credited with 17 films, she brought to her work a unique vision which makes them different from other films of the times.

Besides its very existence (and its bringing to the public many films which might not attain commercial release or, in some cases, re-release), perhaps the most important aspect of the Women's Film Festival is its bringing of Dorothy Arzner and three of her films back before the public's eye. No matter how historically important someone may be in the history of film, they are essentially lost unless people can actually see their work. Unlike a portrait which can be reproduced in a textbook, a film has to be experienced on the screen to be fully appreciated. And in the next week the festival will be showing, along with 32 other films, Arzner's *Nana* (based on the Zola novel), *Christopher Strong* (Katherine Hepburn's second film, based loosely upon Amelia Earhart) and *Dance, Girl, Dance* (with Maureen O'Hara and Lucille Ball as competitive dancers, one a ballerina and the other a stripper.)

Christopher Strong was perhaps the first film to fix in the public mind the image we now have of Katherine Hepburn. Smart, modern, daring and a maverick, the character of Lady Cynthia Darrington was the prototype of the Hepburn persona. (In her first film, *Bill of Divorcement*, Hepburn plays a daughter who gives up married life to take care of the insane father.) In *Christopher Strong* Hepburn is an aviatrix who has gained world renown and a great deal of self-satisfaction with her high flying feats. It was a different image for women in 1933 and Arzner literally snapped Hepburn from a Tarzan clone of a movie (she was in a tree wearing a tiger skin) because she felt that the face and the stature suggested what she considered the right look. But Arzner's woman identification and feminism are not all in the apparent "strong woman" image

of Hepburn in the film. *Christopher Strong* is the story of Cynthia's affair with the title character. A rich, weak-willed man, Strong has fallen in love with Cynthia and is torn between the animated flyer and his more stately, stay at home wife. But weak as he may be, Strong is still destructive. After a night of passionate lovemaking he even gets Cynthia to give up flying for him. At the end of the film Cynthia discovers that she is pregnant and struggling to keep her dignity, takes her plane, breaks her own altitude record and commits suicide.

This is your basic Hollywood story of an uppity woman being destroyed because she muddled around with sex and adventure. But Arzner has changed it into something quite different. Although the film is titled *Christopher Strong*, Cynthia is the moral center of it. Strong himself is viewed as a lily-livered coward who goes about destroying women's lives. Even the failed-marriage angle of the story is handled differently than in the usual Hollywood product. Strong's wife Elaine (Billie Burke — yes, Gilda, the good witch of the North but without the surgery mannerisms and turning in a great performance) is not treated as an accessory to a soppy failed romance or as a nag and shrew. Arzner treats her with respect, as a woman who is trapped and in love with a man who does not have the integrity or strength of character to act humanly. Although she is portrayed as socially unbearable and a puritan, Arzner shows us that this is a function of her tenuous position in the world.

Christopher Strong is a fine example of what a new, clear, political vision can do with the most mundane of Hollywood scripts. In *Craig's Wife* (1936) Arzner does much the same with George Kelly's Broadway play. (*Craig's Wife*, unfortunately will not be shown at the Festival, but it pops up on TV several times a year.) The original script details the life of *Harriet Craig*, a woman who loves her home and possessions more than her husband or family. But instead of showing the usual wife-as-shrew-and-unfeeling-bitch, Arzner makes it perfectly clear in scene after scene that, dispossessed in the real world, all that Harriet Craig has for security and a sense of selfhood is her home. She turns Kelly's misogynist play into a feminist analysis of women's place within society. The final tracking shot placing Harriet within her domain is a marvel of both camerawork and analysis.

The other great Arzner film be-



Dorothy Arzner with Joan Crawford.

ing shown is *Dance, Girl, Dance* (1940). Ostensibly a career girl saga with comic touches and a happy ending, *Dance, Girl, Dance* is an examination of the options open to women and how women relate to one another within these options. Judy (Maureen O'Hara) and Bubbles (Lucille Ball) attend the same dance school. When the school falls on hard times they have to seek paying jobs. A serious student, Judy is unable to bump and grind in the open market and keeps trying to be taken seriously as a dancer and to further her career. Bubbles, on the other hand, has no trouble with the new set-up and makes it big as an exotic dancer re-named Tiger Lilly White. (It is a pleasure to see early Lucille Ball perform a serious role, especially when it has some great comic moments.) As their careers continue, Tiger Lilly hits the big time and Judy (serious as ever) ends up being a joke in Tiger's big strip number. Unable to pursue her own career, Judy is trapped in a nightmare which is the reverse of everything she believes in. One night everything goes wrong on stage and she suddenly snaps and turns on the audience:

Go ahead and stare. I'm not ashamed. Go ahead and

laugh, get your money's worth. We're not going to hurt you. I know you want me to tear my clothes off so you can get your fifty cents worth. Fifty cents for the pleasure of staring at a girl the way your wife won't let you. What do you think we think of you up here with your silly smirks your mothers would be ashamed of? It's a thing of the moment for the dress suits to come and laugh at us. We'd laugh too, only we're paid to let you sit there and roll your eyes and make your screamingly clever remarks. What's it all for? So you can go home and strut before your wives and sweethearts... play at being the stronger sex for a minute? I'm sure they see through you just like we do.

Pretty strong stuff for 1940.

Arzner uses the traditional career-girl story, female jealousy, and the woman in search of herself to make a witty, pointed and acutely observed story of what women must go through to prove themselves and to get control of their own lives. Although part of

Continued on page 16

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MICHAEL ELPHICK SIMON JONES JOE MELIA JOHN STANDING and NICOLA PAGET
Writer PETER NICHOLS Music DENIS KING Director MICHAEL BLAKEMORE
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Dressing the Part: Two Approaches to Drag



S.W.



Joanna Leigh



Tina Lea (dress by Norell)



"DEAR... THAT'S TWO FEMININE SHIRTS, ONE PAIR LEATHER CHAPS, THREE PAIR SOX LOTS, ONE BOMBER JACKET, ONE SET GYM SUITS, AND ONE SIZE 12 WALSTED GOWN."

Queens

By Jo Schneiderman

Drag queens are welcome in only two gay bars in Boston. Only one, Jacques, offers shows and pageants. On a Thursday night before a pageant, elegantly dressed queens drift, strut, flirt and dance, their contagious euphoria belying the alienation they express when they talk about their position in Boston's gay male community.

"One of the things I had to get used to," says Tina Lea, a tall blond queen who moved to Boston from Texas ten years ago, "was the gay men here don't like queens. They treat us like dirt." Although s/he has been active in the gay rights movement in the past, s/he rarely participates now in gay rights organizing. Tina echoes the sentiments of the other queens I spoke to when s/he describes her anger at the mainstream gay scene. "They don't want to be associated with me."

All the queens I spoke with complain that their image in the gay community is distorted. "The gay boys see us as prostitutes and hustlers. . . . They don't see us as entertainers," Tina comments.

"Gay people say, 'Let's stick together,'" says Joanna Leigh, one of Boston's top showgirls and manager of the Fire and Ice Review, "but the only time they want anything to do with us is at Gay Pride or Halloween. I'm just as gay. . . . It's a shame."

Norell, a transsexual who designs and makes clothing for herself and other queens, says s/he experiences "more prejudice within the gay community than outside." Like the other queens, s/he perceives that some of the disenfranchisement is based on queens' inability to pass. "When a group that has been oppressed gets more power," Norell observes, "the group feels like they can dump on that part of the community they don't like."

All the queens stress their desire to be seen as whole, real people, rather than as the embodiment of a negative stereotype. They admit some queens are hustlers and prostitutes; some are untrustworthy; but they are angry and hurt by their across-the-board exclusion from gay bars and events. Like most people, they want to be taken seriously.

Joanna Leigh is a 29-year-old Malden native. S/he has been performing for ten years. At first s/he tried to juggle her performances with a job as a visiting nurse. But the differences in the two lifestyles, the hours and the emotional toll of working with seriously ill people finally led Joanna to quit the nursing profession and to become a full-time performer. Now s/he emcees and performs regularly at Jacques and takes the Fire and Ice Review on the road to other bars in New England.

Talking about her decision to perform, Joanna says, "It's in your blood. You either feel it or you don't. You don't just say, 'I'm going to go out there.'"

Joanna's performances differ from those of most of the other area showgirls, primarily in the choice of music, which can best be described as high camp. Unlike many performers, s/he pays little attention to accurate lip-synching or mimicking of the original artist. Instead, Joanna's performances are extremely theatrical, even outrageous. "You have to capture an audience," s/he explains. "You have to have a gimmick. My gimmick is camping."

Joanna sees herself as Boston's top drag entertainer. S/he has helped a number of other performers gain recognition, but downplays her role. "Nobody can 'make' somebody. You have to make yourself." S/he is aware that her prominence has triggered jealousy and complains about the competitiveness among performers. "Fame," s/he comments, "has its disadvantages. People hate to see other people get ahead." Nevertheless, s/he takes the competition in stride, perhaps because s/he is making decent money as a performer, lives in a stable relationship with her "husband," and is very secure about her talent.

One of the performers in the Fire and Ice Review, S.W. (s/he asked that her name not be used), is a relative newcomer to the drag-show scene. Only 20 years old, S.W. is a transsexual with theatrical training who gives an electrifying performance. S/he earns 50 percent of her income from shows. The remainder comes from her live-in boyfriend.

S.W. wears very little make-up and looks like a woman. Despite her talent and love of performing, s/he says s/he doesn't "have dreams of being a female illusionist for the rest of [her] life." Rather s/he wants to have a sex-change operation and to live as a woman.

Many of the performers and patrons at Jacques wear clothes that are extremely costume-like. Tina Lea, however, often dresses in elegant high fashion. Many of her outfits are designed by Norell, a professional clothing designer who expects to open her own shop in partnership with Eve's Garden in the Back Bay.

Continued on page 17



Merissa Sherrill Lynn, executive secretary of the Tiffany Club, demonstrates some of the flexibility of style that marks events held by the Club.

Transvestites

By Jo Schneiderman

Our society is predicated on distinct and separate heterosexual gender roles: men are supposed to be "masculine," to embody "male" characteristics; women are supposed to be "feminine" and embody "female" characteristics. Every gay person has experienced society's shocked disapproval when it learns we are not living our lives according to its rules. Transvestites, or cross-dressers, as they prefer to be called, experience the same societal reaction, even though they are usually heterosexual.

"People are trained to think 'male or female,'" says Kim, one of the residents at a transvestite retreat in Wayland, Massachusetts. "When they see something that isn't quite right, it doesn't compute. The general public can't deal with the androgyny."

Merissa Sherrill Lynn is the executive secretary of the Tiffany Club, a non-profit "social/educational organization for persons interested in cross-dressing, . . . transsexuals, . . . and relatives and friends." The Tiffany Club maintains a house beyond the Boston suburbs where cross-dressers can hang out, meet others, learn about make-up and comportment, and store their clothing. Merissa describes the retreat as an "extended closet" for some people.

Merissa stresses the need for maintaining a safe space, a place where men who like to dress as women can be accepted for who they are, free from harassment.

Harassment, the cross-dressers at the Tiffany Club maintain, results from society's fixation on clear and distinct gender roles. "Our society suffers from a male superiority complex," Merissa explains, "so that any man who wants to express his femininity is taboo."

"Men think we're demeaning men's roles," adds Paula, one of Tiffany's guests. "We're weakening their hold on society."

Because our society attacks whatever it can't understand, and whatever threatens the status quo, cross-dressers lose jobs, clubs are closed on technical violations, family and friends react with horror. Judy, another guest, carries around a notice that verifies the legal right to dress in clothes of the opposite sex. More than once, the notice has protected Judy from police harassment.

In addition to sharing society's scorn, cross-dressers share women's fear of rape. Rape can and has happened, the Tiffany guests agree. When a potential rapist discovers his victim is really a man, he can become even angrier and his attack can become more brutal. Since many of the cross-dressers want to pass as women in public, they have found that they need to learn how to protect themselves from sexual assault. Kim mentions that in her former home town of Denver, Colorado, the transvestite club offered classes in rape protection. Holly, a guest, notes, "It costs me more money to go out as a woman, because I have to park close to where I'm going."

Like gays, cross-dressers fear the pain and difficulty of coming out. Several of the guests at the Tiffany Club are married and they have all dealt differently with coming out. "My wife isn't sure what I'm doing," says Judy. "She wants to know and she doesn't want to know. But if my son found out he would bury me."

"I couldn't continue to deceive [my wife]," recalls Debby, another guest. "When [she] discovered, she was extremely shocked. We've been working on it very hard . . . getting help. She's accepting it more and more [but] she may not be able to accept it [fully]."

Other cross-dressers bring their wives to meetings where the women can find support through other wives and girlfriends. "My wife admits that we are a nice group of people," says Paula, but acknowledges that wives are also caught up in society's demand that men and women be clearly differentiated.

Despite harassment, coming-out difficulties and personal problems accepting their differences, cross-dressers express a sense of self-satisfaction and emotional tranquility.

Merissa presents three basic rewards from cross-dressing. All cross-dressers are different and the importance of each reward varies according to the individual. The first on Merissa's list is that cross-dressing can be a sexual turn-on, like other kinds of costuming. The second is more sensual: the feel of feminine clothing, pride in beauty, etc. Finally, Merissa says, people get emotional rewards from cross-dressing.

Most of the guests at the Tiffany Club describe an emotional release. Acting as women, they say, they can express aspects of their personalities they feel unable to express as men.

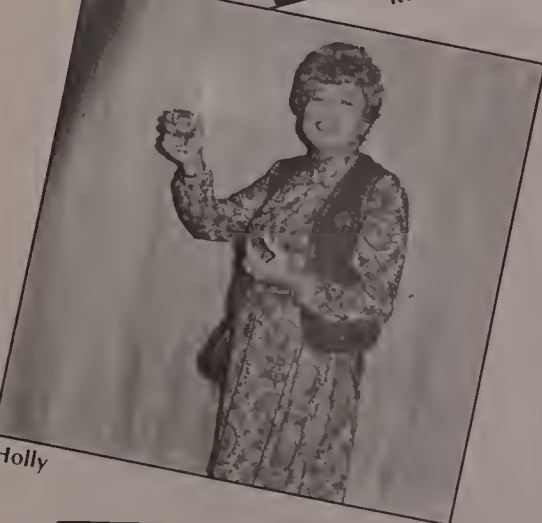
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Kim



Roberta Dearborn



Holly



Freedom's Just Looking for room to grow in Sex Roles and Sexualities

The following two pieces are written by people who are forced to use a language that just doesn't have the words/ideas they need to describe themselves, because we live in a culture whose stereotypes ('feminine'/'masculine', 'woman'/'man', 'gay'/'straight') don't fit many of our realities. It may be that if "sexuality" were truly liberated, there would be as many sexualities as there are individuals and, maybe even more importantly, the division between "sexual" and "nonsexual" would be (is!) ridiculous and destructive of people's potential.

Also, the gradual disappearance (not from reality, but from general visibility) of "drag queens" has accompanied (who knows with what connections?) the disappearance of gay liberation, now defused into the gay rights and gay (voting) power business. The State House and places of business are respectable and stereotypically serious. Drag queens (not to speak of transgender people) just don't fit into the votes-and-bucks-acquisition process. Which may simply be to say that the now growing tendency to be 'just-as-good-as-them has become a tendency to be just-like-them, which doesn't leave a lot of room for the diversity that the burst of gay liberation politics in the early seventies expressed.



The ecstasy

Writing an article is quite a venture and I'm flattered to be asked. Thank you. I'd very much like to share my self/experiences with your friends/readers. The only hesitancy I have is the fact that I'm just beginning to discover myself and I'm attempting to interpret my feminine urges and how those feelings and my transvestism relates to my future.

If I were a real woman, I would never know the ecstasy of being a man being a woman. If I were a woman, I could never experience the joy and pleasure of preparing myself to change roles.

Under the circumstances there is absolutely no way for self-expression or communication of my feelings here, so my mental growth and self-acceptance is stifled. That's why I want to communicate with other gays and TVs who've accepted their feelings as to how they want to live their lives.

So many of the uncaring and uninformed stereotype inmates treat people like me as social rejects or lepers. What is amazing to me though is that this idea/feeling is propagated by the gay community, both men and women. Gay people are aware of the condemning morality of society. Gay men and women have had to overcome so many of society's moral, ethical and religious barriers to live their lives as they please, that the last thing I would expect is for them to pass judgment on other victims of society.

Gay prisoners have an especially difficult time. So many have no real choice in choosing their 'partners'. They usually find themselves paired with someone either for protection or convenience/monetary reasons.

You have no idea the degree of anxiety experienced by a transvestite/gay in here! There's no way (almost, no way) to satisfy one's cravings, desires, passions, whatever. I find myself longing for the feel of silk panties, tasting lipstick on my lips, applying makeup and having the admiring glances in my favorite lesbian/gay nightclub.

Being a TV/drag queen is a

mental attitude that needs a physical release, usually through masturbation or sex. Being a "queen" is a mental state of femininity. When I'm in that state I experience a total physical/mental rejection of my masculinity in the sense of gestures and thought.

It was as if I were able to step outside of my masculine body/mind and critique what I should be doing... I don't believe I'm schizophrenic, just conscious of my own diverse desires.

I've been a transvestite since I was 12 years old. Throughout the years I've made numerous attempts to deny my feelings but after 20 years of "dressing up", it's time for me to confront the reality that I want to be a transvestite. And I enjoy gay sex. Now that I can admit my sexual preference, I can begin to deal with what I want to do about it.

My transvestism is as integral a part of my personality as is my masculinity. I know that when I'm "dressed up" I am only a make

believe woman, so I am never dissatisfied with my being male, nor do I want to change forever into a woman. When I'm dressed in female clothing and attain as close a resemblance as possible to a real woman, I certainly pretend that I am a woman, but I do not want to be a woman. If I were a real woman, I would never know the ecstasy of being a man being a woman. If I were a woman, I could never experience the joy and pleasure of preparing myself to change roles.

To me, transvestism is my alter-ego. It's the part of my personality that sublimates my anger, decision-making, and sexual expression. I would "dress up" and go to the State Bar, which is a gay and lesbian night club in Flint [Michigan] and I would just sit and drink and think through the day's activities and my future plans. It was as if I were able to step outside of my masculine body/mind and critique what I should be doing. I always gave myself an objective decision. I don't believe I'm schizophrenic, just conscious of my own diverse desires.

This is why you, GCN, and the gays and TV's I hope to correspond/meet through you are so important to me. I'm able to put

my feelings on paper and share them for a change. Sharing my thoughts/feelings here has been like a purging of my soul, releasing the demons of fear, insecurity, and self-doubt that have been a part of my life for so long. Just saying these words in my mind as I write them has had a tremendous effect on my mind. I feel relieved.

Sincerely,
Ed Cottle,
115685,
PO Box E,
Jackson, MI 49204



Transgenderal Lesbian

I am a 33 year-old transsexual. However, I am rather "unique" in that where most TSs I've known consider themselves "heterosexual" in their sexual/emotional attractions to the male gender, I am strictly a "transsexual homosexual," meaning simply that I desire to be, and am in all aspects but physical, a woman, but I am a feminist and a lesbian who is very attracted to women. I dress as a woman, of course, have always felt like a woman, though I went through some hard identity crises trying to be a "macho" man, because I could not deal with my femininity in a male body.

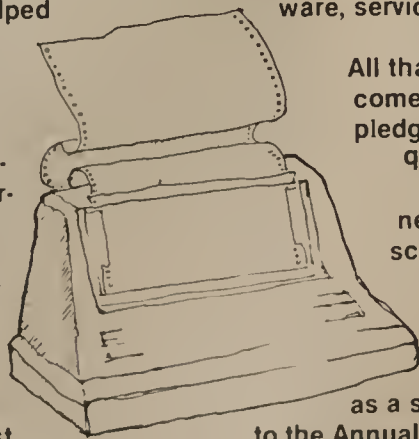
I have tried relationships with men. Although I can satisfy men, who generally find me quite attractive, I feel no real attraction. I am somewhat attracted to, and can be "satisfied" with another "queen", but only sexually. I am not simply a "heterosexual drag queen." However, because of my attractions to females I find that there are many bi-sexual women attracted to me as I am physically, my penis representing a rather unique "sex toy" between two women.

All of these labels really mean very little to me, and I simply see myself as "me" and have no real problem with staying just as I am as long as there are people, women people, in my life who understand

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time, not to mention that trying to remedy subscription problems is a nightmare.

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and treat me as the woman I am within me.

The problem is that currently there are no women in my life. I am in prison for parole violation. I live with a man who is very understanding and because I do like him and his gentleness and because he's not *too* demanding, he occasionally gets his way with me. Though he is pleasant enough, he is still a man. The relationship exists out of friendship and confinement, nothing more than a civil arrangement of convenience so to speak.

Many feminists will not accept me because of my male body, because they can't or won't understand me. Of course I could "lie" to them in person as my appearance is *quite* feminine. No one would ever know. But I want and need to find an organization of lesbian feminists who do know, can understand, and who accept me as a woman.

I want to be able to put movement posters, stickers, etc. on the walls of my cell, which is my home for now, and let the world know I am a lesbian, and very proud!

I am very much interested in the special issue of *Changes*, published by Solidarity and International Socialists: A Socialist Feminist Network [special issue on socialism and feminism, including articles on gays and lesbians and reproductive rights, available from Solidarity, 725 O'Farrell No.35, SF CA 94109]. Unfortunately in prison I am broke and have no way to obtain the \$2.50. Do you know of any pamphlets or information of any sort which would help me learn more and/or find an organization which I could be a part of?

I want to be able to put movement posters, stickers, etc. on the walls of my cell, which is my home for now, and let the world know I *am* a lesbian, and very proud! With love and hope for the future, Evie,
[Ralph E. Grewell,
128030,
PO Box 520
Walla Walla, WA 99362

[What follows is a story Evie wrote about some experiences before and during prison which should add some richness/diversity to the "normal" stereotypes of "gay," "bi," and "strait."]

Confusing Times

This is a brief story of Eve Grewell. I am a transgenderal person, anatomically male, but female in character, personality, soul and spirit.

At birth I was christened Ralph Everett Grewell. I was my mother's third son and child. She had desired a daughter. Red, naturally curly hair, fair skin and effeminate facial features, made it easier for her to treat me as though I were. Women would stop her on the street, as we walked to ask her about, or comment on "her daughter's beautiful, red curly hair": my hair...

My puberty period was a difficult time. My father, a literal tyrant and disciplinarian, led the family in total conformity to his dictates as to how daily life would be for each member. Lack of total

conformity on my part would result in severe beatings with a 2-inch leather belt, and occurred all too frequently.

As a teenager the character within me was heavily repressed. All sensitivity and emotion were buried deeply. What emerged as a pseudo-character of Ralph was almost entirely mechanical.

There existed both anger and shame that I had been born male when my appearance, character, etc., was so female. There was the desire to be a girl, but there was also great fear and the ever present need to conform to fathers

"norm," a very "macho" norm that dwelt in my home. I must try to be what this man expected me to be.

At 13 years of age, and for the following 19 years of my life, I would seek the "sour grapes," the status I even then knew I could never have, the status of "manhood." To prove that I could, to prove father wrong, and to prove I was a "good person." I sought to conform to the macho world by choice of a non-conformist role; that of a "criminal" and "biker." At age 16 I began a series of petty crimes of which I myself was the only real victim.

Immediately I became involved in the Washington State "corrections system." Starting out innocently enough, the system watched as Ralph became a biker. The fictitious character I was felt wholly out of place whenever any real bikers were around. "Biker" became, of course, synonymous with "father" in the distorted images of a misguided young adult.

While my body wore the paraphernalia of the biker, Evie felt like she was being raped, and nearly was more than once in the earlier years of imprisonment. But I was able to get along with the biker element and eventually became quite powerful in the club. Cast into this responsibility, an unusual thing happened: Evie began to surface and guide in my decision making! She actually began "mothering" many of the younger bikers in an attempt to "teach," to guide away from self-deception and destructive patterns, giving to her "brothers" where she could from this "closet" position.

In the following two years I began to slowly "come out" of the closet. Little by little I decided to stop pretending to be something I wasn't and began to dissociate myself from the biker club and went into "protective custody" where I am today.

Over the next year Ralph died and Evie took physical form. Her character, mine, lives in acceptance and emotional/mental comfort, openly for all to see. This was the hardest battle of my life, simply to be "me," unafraid.

What I do face now is the bigoted treatment aimed at the stereotype "gay community."

Nevertheless the system is thorough, and without outside support from someone it is doubtful I will be able to keep this up. The system labels as it wishes. The facts are easily buried, as are the prisoners, when they have no contact with the outside.

I have completed my sentence and then some. In doing so I, alone, have managed to bring my life into direct contact with my own reality. I have finally developed the courage to stand, alone if necessary, in this place as I am and daily understand the "snickers" to by the comments of children, and to overlook their behavior toward that which is too large for them: my freedom to live as I am. Having been freed from the most devastating "inner prison-closet," I have patience that truly surprises me.

The gay community was for the most part not open to, nor geared for, such support, though I did find one or two persons who wished they could help and sincerely tried.

Those who control the prison have a heavy control over the "queen," literally, her body and even to a large degree her mind (by means of psychiatric assault and manipulation).

The system "hides" a prisoner by means of transfers. Short term transfers designed to keep the prisoner "moving" so that their head and their relationships are never stable long enough for significant court action, media contact or organizing activity to get going.

When it became apparent to the system that I was a "queen" (any transgenderal person, known homosexual, or bisexual, etc. is known as a "queen" to the system), I was transferred from McNeil Island, a relatively high "visibility" prison in the Washington system, to Walla Walla, far from the support groups in Seattle and the media.

When my release date came I was transferred to a work release [minimum security] program in Tacoma, but on arrival was told that I wouldn't be allowed to leave the community prison as is usual to develop a job and housing plan, but instead would have to do so by phone. Frantically I began a phone vigil into the gay community to

find support and help. The gay community was for the most part not open to, nor geared for, such support, though I did find one or two persons who wished they could help and sincerely tried.

The gay community is aware of how the spirit of the law of the pursuit of happiness is mocked daily even by those who claim allegiance to it. The only reason I can think of as to why the gay community would not try to assist one in my position is that the community is not aware of what does go on in these places and of the presence of sincere people who live under this constant threat and who need YOUR HELP because there is no one else who *can* understand these factors. We do not ask for handouts, but for your friendly assistance in finding the kind of jobs and housing that we need to

support ourselves.

People interested in correspondence with me are encouraged to write. Women, individual and support groups are especially encouraged to write. Sincerely and affectionately yours, Eve Grewell

[R.E. Grewell,
128030,
PO Box 520,
Walla Walla, WA 99362.]

[GCN Prisoner Project has a copy of Evie's employment resume which will be sent to anyone who asks for it. Generally she has substantial secretarial experience but hopes to get involved in some kind of counseling situation.]



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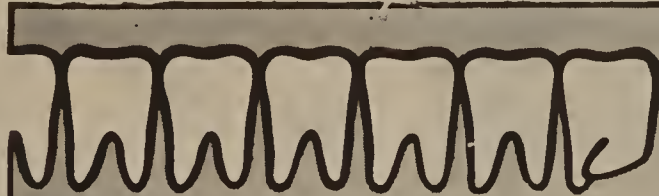
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Cinema

Continued from page 7

the film pits Tiger Lilly against Judy, Arzner makes it clear that both women are only responding to the options they see as being open to them. It is not a matter of good vs. bad or even of character types. It is this overall political vision of Arzner's which informs the films and makes them vital today.

Although the Dorothy Arzner films give some historical context, most of the other films being shown are fairly new. The one exception to this is *San Francisco* starring Jeanette McDonald and Clark Gable. Although directed by a man, W.S. Van Dyke II, *San Francisco* was written by Anita Loos. Loos, who also wrote the original novel and the screenplay for *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, turned out a script which was the epitome of jazz-age wit and sparkle. The story of an innocent singer (McDonald) who comes to the big city and falls in with the most flashy and suave of crooks (Gable) just before the earthquake of 1906, *San Francisco* is a concise exploration of male and female sexuality at odds with one another. The film contains the usual lavish MGM period-production values and an earthquake montage that is better than most disaster footage in today's epics. But the surprise (at least for most people) is McDonald's performance as the naïf coming to terms with the real world. A terribly underrated actress, Jeanette McDonald is shockingly good. The material gives her a change from the usual operetta shtick she is usually associated with and proves her to be a fine dramatic actress and a talented comedian. And although her soprano may be a bit high and thin for today's tastes, you know she has power when she finishes her solo and the entire city comes down around her head.

Many of the narrative films being shown do focus on women's lives and the problems they face. *Testament* by Lynne Littman was released earlier this year and garnered an Oscar nomination for its star, Jane Alexander. Alexander plays a mother who must face, with her family, a nuclear disaster. Perhaps because it was

too close to TV's *The Day After*, of maybe because nuclear family/nuclear disaster films just don't sell, *Testament* did very poorly at the box office. Although it received great reviews the studio did not really give it enough theater life to build a word of mouth reputation.

Susan Seidelman's *Smithereens*, which played in Boston a year and a half ago, will be back with its examination of a 19-year-old woman's involvement with new wave city life. An interesting counterpoint to *Dance, Girl, Dance*, director Seidelman takes a distinctly wry and weary view of her heroine. Although she is presented as a victim of her environment, the bone-chilling death world of a New Jersey suburb, she is also a cunning, driven and rather unlikeable person who is out to get what she can. The sympathy which is so evident in the Arzner film, is somewhat mitigated here, replaced with a harsher reality. It shows, perhaps, that culture has become a lot more complicated and that nothing is as simple as it may have seemed 40 years ago.

A more traditional view of women and their relationships can be seen in Claudia Weill's *Girlfriends*, Christine Dall's and Conrad Randall's *The Dozens*, and Joan Micklin-Silver's *Chilly Scenes of Winter*. *The Dozens*, filmed in Cambridge and Boston, examines the life of a woman just out of prison. Dall and Randall have a sharp sense of the physical details of everyday life for women and how they affect both psychological and emotional interactions. Without ever placing too much emphasis upon it, *The Dozens* paints an incisive picture of the political realities of sex and class. Claudia Weill's *Girlfriends* is a friendly movie about the relationship of two women, an artist and a writer, and how they strive to seek personal autonomy and maintain their friendship through the muddy waters of lovers, jobs, family and life. Again, like *The Dozens*, it is the attention to detail that makes the film both immediate and realistic. Similar to the 1981 *Rich and Famous*, *Girlfriends* takes as its subject matter a female-female relation-

ship and places it within a larger context. Unlike the more mainstream film, *Girlfriends* is more interested in the immediate day-by-day effects that the relationship has on the women's lives. It's this attention to the everyday that gives it a texture and quality usually lacking from most Hollywood films.

Joan Micklin-Silver's *Chilly Scenes of Winter* is unusual. Released several years ago and then pulled by the studio, it was re-released with a newly edited ending (the studio had changed the original the first time around) and gained a good audience. Based on a novel by Ann Beattie, *Chilly Scenes* is a film written and directed by a woman which details the sexual obsession of a young man for his ex-girlfriend. This extra twist — the male gaze, as gazed by a woman — makes the film both very funny and painful. As a story of sexual obsession it is accurate and pointed, but it also has the virtue of a double-edged vision; a woman's view of a man's obsession. What has traditionally been a province of male thought and experience is now filtered through a different eye and the results are surprising. Instead of a harsh critique of male sexuality, Micklin-Silver has made the situation and the feelings more painful. Her empathy with both the ex-lover and the man heightens the

Transvestites

Continued from page 13

"I feel very different when I'm Debby," Debby explains. "I like my female self better."

Several of the cross-dressers describe a psychological merging of their male and female selves. "I'm more of an androgynous person," Merissa states. "I use my masculine qualities as well as my feminine."

"From seeing both sides," Kim observes, "you are pretty much on the side of the women." Kim feels androgynous: the masculine and feminine personality aspects have finally merged.

The cross-dressers say that when they are "dressed," the women who emerge are parts of their lifelong personalities. "I am who I am

situation and the emotions. *Chilly Scenes* is about romance gone crazy and while in the past the same story may have been told in terms of sexuality, Micklin-Silver's version has both hurt and tenderness as well as a great degree of humor.

The documentaries being screened also reflect women's personal and political lives. *Eight Minutes to Midnight* looks at the work of anti-nuke activist Helen Caldicott and *Lulu in Berlin* is an interview with actress Louise Brooks. Although totally disparate in careers and views, both of the women and films reflect the diversity of what women have done, what they are allowed to do now and, perhaps more importantly, that all of this has come to interest audiences. Unlike Dorothy Arzner's life, which has been ignored or made into a footnote, these women are now being accepted and viewed as people with something of value to say and listen to.

There are many other films being shown at the festival, including a program of children's films, the classic short, *Betty Tells Her Story*, and the award-winning documentary by Barbara Kopple about the struggle for unionization of coal miners, *Harlan County, U.S.A.*

Although hardly covering all aspects of women and films, the

Festival is giving a well-rounded look at what women have done in the industry. As more opportunities open themselves to women, both in Hollywood and as independents, there will be a wider and broader range than ever to present in the future. Two hits from Hollywood last year, *Yentl* and *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* were directed by women and these clearly are adding to the tradition of what women have done and will do. (Even less traditional genres are opening up to women. *The Slumber Party Massacre* (1981) was directed by Amy Small from a script by Rita Mae Brown.) What The Dorothy Arzner Film Festival has done is given women in film a history and a context in which to grow. Although all of the films here may not be great — many are — all are well worth seeing. I hope that, unlike Arzner's films, they will not have to undergo the indignity of going underground for years before they can be enjoyed and appreciated. So there is no need to go see *Police Academy* or *Friday the 13th*; there are more than enough films at the Dorothy Arzner Film Festival to keep you going for a while.

The films making up the Festival will be shown at the Sack Cinema Copley Place. Call 542-7225 for times.

organizations have been active for the past 25 years, observes Merissa. Kim points out the need for increased ties to the gay community, which should evolve through cross-dressers' increased visibility.

Our shared experience of societally disapproved gender/sex roles creates a natural connection between gays and cross-dressers. The guests at Tiffany all say they feel much more accepted by the gay community than by the straight community. But because they are on the fringes of the gay community, they do not yet share the anger of the queens.

(For more information on the Tiffany Club, write them at PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778.)

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No Voice for the Blues

Hunter Davis in Concert. Accompanied by Julie Homi on piano. April 7, 1984, 8:30 p.m., Somewhere Else.

By Pam Gordon

A warm, friendly Hunter Davis, trying to be just "one of the women" and to make her audience feel at ease, performed at Somewhere Else Saturday night, April 7. The North Carolina-based singer, songwriter, guitarist and lesbian was accompanied by one of the best pianists I have ever

only one who seemed to enjoy her talk lead-ins was Hunter herself.)

The best song of the evening was the haunting and moving "Dream Girl." Another good rendition was "Down and Out." "Carolina Blue," Hunter's own composition, had good rhythm and melody, but sort of silly lyrics, seemingly written only to create rhyme:

... find you no matter where
you go
south of France
or New Mexico

Hunter tried hard when she sang, seemingly putting heart and soul into every song.

heard, Julie Homi. Hunter sings blues, jazz and folk ballads. Most of the blues and jazz songs are composed by others, such as "Georgia on my Mind" and "New York State of Mind," for example. However, Hunter did compose at least two of the evening's blues songs, including "Carolina Blues."

Hunter tried hard when she sang, seemingly putting heart and soul into every song. Unfortunately, her voice lacks the richness, depth and range required for the blues. Her voice sounded thin and sharp; it didn't hit you in the gut like an Alberta Hunter or an Aretha Franklin. The problems with her voice were especially evident on the great soulful song "Georgia on my Mind," which Hunter managed to render without creating or evoking feeling. However, when she sang slower and moodier songs such as "New York State of Mind" or a song she wrote last week entitled "Woman," her voice was adequate and pleasing. "Woman" was a soulful ballad whose lyrics, although not profound, rang very true: "I don't know the rhymes or reasons/All I know is that you're pleasin'/me."

If Hunter's lyrics were not profound, neither was much of her repartee with the audience. At one point she asked, "Anyone here ever been angry?" This "down-home girl" worked too hard for rapport with the sophisticated Boston audience, evidenced by the fact that no one even bothered to answer her question. (In fact, the

Another Hunter Composition, "Lady Blue," was a sweet, soft lullabye, a very good song. It's a lullabye because its words are what we like to say to soothe a lover: "Wish I had the answer/To help you ease your pain."

Hunter tried the great Fats Waller's "Ain't Misbehavin'" and again her voice sounded shallow and sharp. To make the attempt even worse, Hunter changed the tempo to make it more upbeat and her shallow voice then became shouty. The only

Queens

Continued from page 8

Norell defines herself as a transsexual and, like S.W., expects to undergo a sex-change operation. S/he has been designing clothes since childhood, when her grandmother taught her to make doll clothes. Norell uses no patterns and has the impressive ability to copy any article of clothing from a drawing or photograph. Dresses s/he has made have turned up in vintage clothing stores with price tags as high as \$80.

Norell started as a showgirl, then discovered s/he was "wearing more make-up as a boy than as a girl." Norell says s/he has more confidence living as a woman. "When I run around as a boy," s/he explains, "I get strange looks from people. When I live as a woman... I can just go about my business." Norell hopes to be a successful professional business woman, and has already had all her IDs changed.

Even though queens have

thing that saved the song was Julie Homi's great piano. On another blues number, "Your Life is Killin Me," Hunter's voice again failed. But, once again, Julie came through — this time with incredible piano riffs.

I would say about Julie the lines from one of Hunter's pleasant soft songs: "You're the perfect match/For the imperfect me." In other words, for a free concert, Hunter Davis was entertaining. But if I had had to pay, I would have felt ripped off. However, I would gladly pay to hear Julie play piano.

This same situation occurred Friday night at the Meg Christian concert: opening for Meg was Diane Lindsay accompanied by Sue Fink on synthesizer. In terms of a performing personality and musical ability, Sue was far and away superior to Diane. Let's have the best women play!

One final note: it was very kind of Somewhere Else to donate their stage for this concert. However, the sound system was poor and disco music flooded down the stairs. This combination made it hard to hear and seemed to annoy the performers. So please, Somewhere Else staff, give the live singers a break and keep down the disco.

always been a part of the gay community and we all loved *La Cage aux Folles*, in real life queens are subject to ridicule and exclusion by other gays. It is important that we accept those parts of our community that will never pass, that will never be acceptable to straight people. If we do not, we perpetuate our own oppression by turning our self hatred on less powerful members of our own community.

My foray into the world of queens and their experience of oppression by other gays was summed up in a conversation photographer Susan Weiss had with a man in Skipper's while I was interviewing Norell.

"Why do you call him 'she'?" the man asked.

"Just look at her," Susan answered.

"Yeah. But why do you call him 'she'?" the man repeated.

"Out of respect."

"Oh. I never thought of that."

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3 GM want 4th to share Central Sq household. 140 plus util. We are mostly veg, collectively run, concerned with the politics of sex, race & class. 497-6323. (41)

JLF seeks LF for beaut 2 br apt nr Inman Sq. Flexible length of stay (summer or longer). Call Suzi at 354-2363 ASAP. (41)

Som GWM sks GM 28-35 for roommate no smkg, drugs, alc. abuse. \$225/mo \$192.50 sec dep req. Av 5/1. 628-5414, 9am-10pm. Not a sex ad. (41)

GWM quiet grad stnt & working seeks prof mature GM for rent-contrlrld Brookln 193/mo inc heat 232-0760, 6-9pm. No pets please. Avail May 1. (42)

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2 LF looking for rmte 25+ for April or May. We are 33 & 35, prefer non-smoker, semi-veg. We have 1 cat but no more pets allowed. \$142/mo htd. Near Watertown Sq. We are professionals in the music and human services field 923-9366. (41)

CENTRAL SQ CAMBRIDGE

LF sks LF 25+ for 2 bd apt nice sunny place. Sk respon, friendly, politically aware feminist. \$212.50/mo inc heat. Terri, eves 491-5655. (40)

L 25 poet, editor sks F for huge warm sunny 6 rm Dorch apt. Wd flrs, smell of sea, porches. I want a home with humor, respect, neatness, new curtns, no smoke. \$175 + low utils. 825-2787 till 11; 491-2754 T, Th, F. Ask for E.J. (38)

JP 3 LFs sk 2 for summer, start 6/1 & pos cont. Nr Pond, arb, T wlyard, porches, on safe, tree-lined street; share food & chores, no smokers or more pets. 175 + 522-7446. (42)

LF sks home w/1-3 others for mid-May, June 1. Veg, no pets, considerate, self-sufficient, politically aware (if not always correct), emotional, smart, sks same. Will pay up to \$290/mo ht, H20 inc. Need parking. 566-5310 anytime — phone machine. (39)

2 JL sk 1-2 L for June 1 for Brkl hshld. Prefer 30 plus, non-smkr, semi-veg for spiritual, warm hshld. Very mod. alc/drug use. We have 2 cats. Rent \$208 plus (3)/\$170 plus (4). 232-9089. (41)

If you're lesbian over 29, have a serious sense of humor, want women's space in Cambridgeport, cigs OK, call Marge 497-6782. (41)

ROOMMATE WANTED

GWM, 23, prof looking for GM prof apt mate starting June 1. I am smoker, fairly quiet. You are similar. Apt is spacious, sunny, in Coolidge Corner \$300/mo. David (617) 232-9064. (41)

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TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, *Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist*).



A lady named **BETH** wrote me a letter and sent me a book and I lost the envelope with her return address on it and cannot reply. Maybe if she reads this she could send it again. Thank you, In sisterhood, Elaine, McNEVIN, 19175, Hospital Dr. North, No.23, Orofino ID 83544 (new address). Thank you.

I am a woman in need of some correspondence and I've been told by a friend here that *GCN* is a swell way to meet people with the same lifestyle. So, I'm single, 36, and hoping someone out there would care to drop me a line. I will answer all, race unimportant. Bert HARRIS, LA 235 / W19581, Frontera CA 91720.

Looking for friendship, possibly more. Who knows... I'm a lonely Butch in need of friendship, sincerity and letters. I'm witty, caring, loving, waiting. Been down 6 years. I'm 30. Virgo, Handsome. Robin Shawnee JACKSON, 600728, Box A, Oakdale, IA 52319.



GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o *GCN*, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

Call for Women to Write!

Seal Press seeks submissions from women for "THINGS THAT DIVIDE US: Stories on Racism, Classism and Anti-Semitism." Submissions should be no longer than 5000 words, fictional in nature, and can have appeared previously in periodicals. Send with SASE. Seal Press, 312 S. Washington, Seattle, WA 98104.

Homosexual pedophile doing heavy time seeks understanding pen-pals. All answered. If possible include one stamp. Jerry READY, 30 Administration Rd., Bridgewater MA 02324.

I'm still receiving my *GCN* and it's great! But I'm still in need of a friend. I'm crazy about furry animals, good music and dancing. But what I like most is a hot man who will try anything once. Ricky MILBURN, EF-151355, 4600 Fulton Mill Rd., Macon GA 31213.

Prisoners Seeking Friends

GCN PRISONER READERS!!!

Remember to send in your letter about getting the paper by May 10!

Somebody asked about how "hard" the porno stories can be. If hard means hot (imaginative) action, go for it; if it means long (boring) descriptions of the beauty of slim-blond-haired-blue-eyed-twenty-year-olds-etc-etc-etc., don't bother. We've got plenty already.

Incarcerated TSs and TVs will find plenty of admirers on the outside who would be willing to get to know them if they'd send a picture with a biography to the U.S. TV/TS Contact Service, 1017B East Pike St., Seattle WA 98122.

I would like to hear from some readers who would like to write a transsexual. I'm open-minded and accept people as they are. I'm at a very low point in my life and I need a friend. Most gays are looking for a stud, but if people would look at the person from the inside then they might find true friendship. Ronnie ODELL, PO Box 58, McCain NC 28361.

Gay male looking for TV or TS for a real relationship. No game players please. Into rock music, eating good, health, meeting new people. Getting out pretty soon. Greg ZATLER, A-065486, 3950 Tiger Bay Rd. E107D, Daytona Beach FL 32014.

Looking for someone to write me. I like reading, swimming, and travel. Hoping to get out next year (85). Looking for someone in the Texas, Boston, Key West areas, but will write anywhere. Robert E. HILL, 361708, Rt 1 Box 16, Lovelady TX 75851

Would like to hear from TVs and small guys. I am 5 ft. 3 and will enjoy letters from anyone, but please some of you smaller guys, under 5 ft. 5, please write. James R. CONE (Jamie), 277249 1B2, PO Box 1000, Steilacoom WA 98399.

We have about 15 of us gays here all the way out of our closets, but the administration is always trying to bust us for something. We can't work in food service jobs because of AIDS. I went to ask the admin. if we could have an all-gay softball team, but he said no (afraid we'd win). I'd like to get a penpal if I could. I'm a Taurus and love muscles! Bobbi SWAINE, 00888-017, Box 1000, Milan MI 48160.

Looking for a penpal that will like to write a gay prisoner that is so lonely here in prison. "Help!" Dwain RASMUSSEN, C-55880, PO Box A-E, RM 7102, San Luis Obispo CA 93409.

Lonely youth (my friends tell me I'm 'cute and cuddly'), looking for someone to communicate with. I'm into reading, disco, swimming and motocross. Kenneth RICH, 82B 415, Box 367, Danemora NY 12929.



Thanks so much for your paper each week. I also get the NAMBLA Bulletin with no problem. I'd like to have a sincere penpal (18 or over). I'm no spring chicken, but I can still cut the mustard. Ha, Ha! Regards, William KEGLEY, 072662, Box 50, 3876 Evans Rd., Polk City FL 33868.

Looking for a friend to share thoughts and feelings with. Lonely. Bi (mostly towards males). Life is very disarranged in here and not being willing to go after just anything, it's hard to open up in here. Jerry LEWIS, 055544, PO Box 1500 No.626, Cross City FL 32628.

I like large round hung men, Gms, TVs or TSs. I like to travel, grow flowers, talk and make love. All you darling men write me soon. I love hot sexy letters. Larry STEVENS, 49277, Max 1-C-10, 818 Jefferson Ave, Moundsville WV 26041

I would like to correspond with another man who just may have my same feelings on life and gayness in love. I love silky clothes, and a soft lover. I enjoy camping in the hills and also the neon life. I am honest and sometimes to the point. I'm here because I gave two dummies to a nark in a gay bar in Clearwater. I'm quite lonely for words spoken beyond the fence and would love to hear from a new and interesting man. Harry WATKINS, A-050442, Box 176, Lake C.I., PO Box 99, Clermont FL 32711.

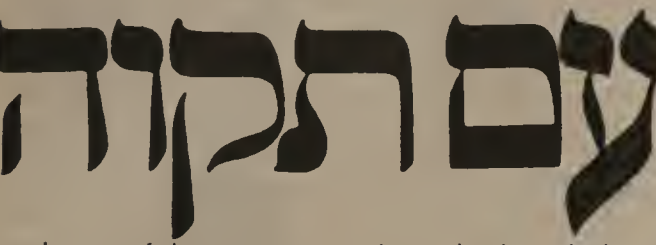


Notes

Compiled by Michael Bronski

holocaust memorial

Am Tikva, a community of gay and lesbian Jews, will sponsor a service in observance of Yom Ha-Shoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. The special service will include readings, poems and prayers relating to the Holocaust ex-



perience of Jews, gay people and other victims of the Nazi era. The service will begin promptly at 7:30PM on Monday, April 30 at the MIT Chapel in Cambridge (close to Mass. Ave. and Memorial Drive, near the Central Square "T" station). For more information, call Am Tikva at 782-8894.

a/k/a culture

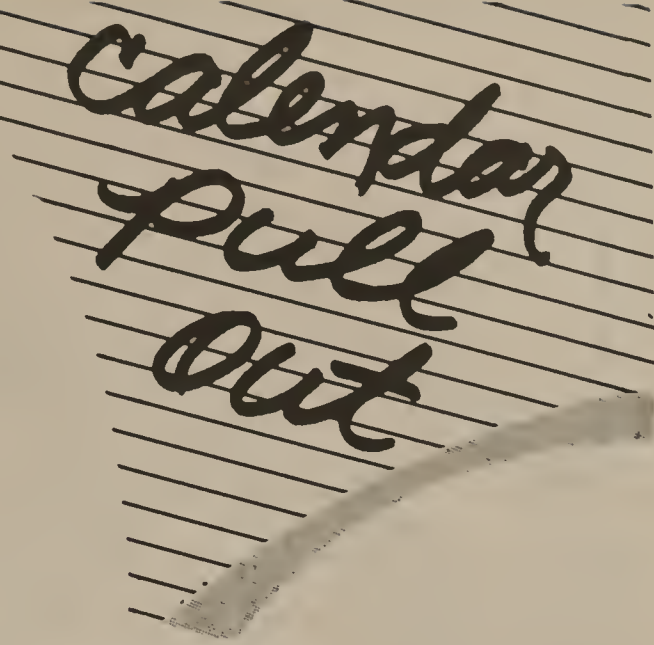
Frank Wedekind's classic Spring Awakening will be presented by a/k/a Theater from May 17 to June 9 at the Actor's Workshop, 40 Boylston St. Written in 1891, Spring's Awakening was a shocking expose of the sexual repression which thwarted and destroyed the lives of young people. Featuring such timeless teenage issues as masturbation, abortion and homosexuality, the play has been banned through the years and as recently as 15 years ago in London. Although recognized as a classic, Spring's Awakening is almost never performed; this will be a rare chance to see it. All performances will be at 8:00 Thursday through Saturday. Tickets are \$6.00 for Thursday and Friday, \$8.00 on Saturday. For more information and reservations call 547-1421.

tax-woman

Daughters of Bilitis has announced the DOB Forum, a series of monthly workshops on issues concerning the lesbian and women's communities. On Tuesday, May 1, they will present "Tax Preparation and Financial Planning" with Marjory Posner, a tax consultant. All women are welcome. DOB Forum will meet in their newly decorated office at 1151 Mass. Ave., third floor, Old Cambridge Baptist Church, Cambridge. Call 661-3633 for more information. There is a suggested \$1.00 donation for most DOB events.

book brief

Madame. My Misbegotten Memoirs as told to Wayland Flowers. Overheard and written by Gary Simmons. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1983. \$13.95. "Lately I'm popular as a slide trombone player in an all-gay jazz band." — Madame, on an episode of her defunct tv series. The problem with success is that it inspires (definitely the wrong word) creative people to do things that do not seem to come from the same source as the gift which made them successful. Wayland Flowers' puppet Madame has gone from a cult figure to (no Miss Piggy yet) an abbreviated national status. Clever and dirty, she deserves it. "Sure my nose hurts," says Madame from behind the bandages, "but Bruce Jenner won't sit down for a week." — Madame, ibid. Whether or not you are amused by the two jokes quoted here, the book in question is considerably less funny than the tv show of the past.



Madame on her tv show made her human co-stars look like cartoons; they in turn helped to make her look fully human. This book tries to make Madame look fully human, gives her all the boring details of an American childhood, and, in trying to make this a nonconventional conventional phony biography a la Auntie Mame, makes Madame watered down (planed down?) and tired. Madame's pithy voice is nowhere in this book; it instead sounds like filler for a fan club brochure. Hard core fans like myself will, however, enjoy the photographs. They are not wonderful (compared to, say, the ones Chris Alexander did for Patrick Dennis's Little Me and The First Lady, both of which certainly paved the way for books like Madame's) but some of them are almost wonderful and the back cover is the most gorgeous of the various shades of violet. If "Madame" does another book I hope it's a littler one, with a picture of Madame in a fabulous outfit on every other page, with a Madame comment right across from it. "Am I making too much of a statement?" — Madame, in her all-leather evening outfit on an episode of her TV show. — Walta Borawski

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Christopher Waites	46 Waltham St.	520 Commonwealth Ave.	REMEMBRANCES FLORAL DESIGN	482-2900
(617) 567-0420	South End, Boston MA	Kenmore Square	12 Mt. Auburn St.	WOMEN
(305) 564-1292	(617) 451-3514	Boston, MA 02115	Watertown Square, MA 02172	NEW WORDS BOOKSTORE
CHIROPRACTORS	NEW ENGLAND WOMEN'S GYM	(617) 247-4861	(617) 926-4289	186 Hampshire St.
DR. EDWARD COHEN	1261 Cambridge St.	LAMBDA COUNSELING ASSOCIATES	PODIATRY	Cambridge, MA 02139
Brookline Family Chiropractic Office	Inman Sq.	324 Marlborough St.	A HOUSECALL	(617) 876-5310
1330 Beacon St.	Cambridge, MA 497-9776	Boston, MA 02116	Jeanne M. Arnold, DPM	WOMENCRAFTS, INC.
Brookline, MA 02146	HOME REPAIRS	(617) 353-1729	William A. Sandberg, DPM	P.O. Box 190
(617) 734-7744	GEORGE W. CASPER	TAPESTRY, Inc.	(617) 396-7527	373 Commercial St.
DR. JONATHAN D. STEIN	47 Waldeck St.	20 Sacramento St.	REMODELING	Provincetown, MA 02657
375 Harvard St.	Dorchester, MA 02124	Cambridge, MA 02138	T.H.E. CONTRACTORS, INC.	WOMEN'S BARS
Brookline, MA 02146	(617) 288-3228	(617) 661-0248	36 Pine St.	THE MARQUEE
(617) 232-7200	INFORMATION/MEDIA	GAY AND LESBIAN COUNSELING SERVICE	Chelsea, MA 02150	512 Mass Ave
DR. JAN RISING	XANADU GRAPHICS	600 Washington St., Rm. 219	(617) 889-4347	Cambridge, MA 02139
418 Washington St., Suite 112	143 Albany St.	Boston, MA 02111	LITTLE BEAR AND COMPANY	492-9545
Brighton, MA 02135	Cambridge, MA 02139	542-5188	(617) 296-1770	SOMEWHERE/ELSE
(617) 782-0267	661-6975	NORTH SHORE CMHC COUNSELING	LANDSCAPE DESIGN/BUILD	295 Franklin St.
CINEMA	INSURANCE	47 Congress St.	ROGER WASHBURN	Boston, MA 423-7730
ART CINEMA	DAVID L. COLLINS, CLU	Salem, MA 01970	Licensed Landscape Architect	BOOKSTORES
204 Tremont St.	Suite 830	(617) 744-5322	53 Hawthorne St.	GLAD DAY BOOKSTORE
Boston, MA 02111	50 Congress St.	PLACE/HOTLINE AND COUNSELING	Somerville, Ma. 02144	43 Winter St.
(617) 482-4661	Boston, MA 02109	32 Rutland St.	(617) 776-6377	Boston, MA 02108
NORTH STATION CINEMA 2	1-800-352-3185	Boston, MA (617) 267-9150	CAREER COUNSELING	(617) 542-0144
175 Portland St.	MEDICAL/COUNSELING	SOUTHERN JAMAICA PLAIN HEALTH CENTER	PAULA HERRINGTON	This guide provides a listing of gay/lesbian owned, staffed, or supportive businesses and services. To have your business or service listed (for only \$100.00 per year) call 426-4469
Boston, MA 02114	DR. STEPHEN J. GOLBURGH	687 Centre St.	(617) 628-9043	
(617) 227-0513	Licensed Clinical Psychologist	Jamaica Plain, MA 02130		
	1330 Beacon St. #231	(617) 522-5900		
	Brookline, MA 02146			
	(617) 734-6996			

**April 28
to
June 2**

28 saturday

Boston — Ntozake Shange, author of *for colored girls who have considered suicide*, will speak in a celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the YWCA. \$5 for the event or \$15 for the event and the reception which follows. 7:00PM, Arlington Street Church, 355 Boylston St. Info: 491-6050.

Boston — **Civil Disobedience: A Workshop for Lawyers Guild.** Donation requested. 9AM to 5PM, Northeastern University Law School, 400 Huntington Ave. Info: 227-7335.

Boston — **Fighting for Our Lives**, a conference on AIDS coordinated by the Education Subcommittee of the AIDS Action Committee. \$5. Pre-registration by April 20 is recommended. 9AM to 5PM, Don Bosco Technical School, 300 Tremont St. Info: 536-7733.

Cambridge — **Writing workshop with Maureen Brady**, author of *Folly and Give Me Your Good Ear*. Limited space. New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St., Inman Square. Info: 876-5310.

Boston — **Remembrance: Mabel Amber Bailor and Evergreen Solitude**, one-woman shows produced by **Women in Theater and Watermelon Studio**. \$6.50. Opens 8PM, Gallery Naga, 67 Newbury St. Reservations: 776-4514.

Holliston, MA — **Tri-County Association Steering Committee** meeting at Cliff and Dave's. Open to all. 8PM. Info: 429-6593.

Boston — **BAGLY** Spring Gay-La dance. All youth 22 years and under welcome. 8 PM. Info, location: 497-8282.

29 sunday

Brookline — **Gay and lesbian group now forming.** First organizational meeting. 7PM. Info: 277-1385 between 10AM and 2PM. Ask for Robert.

Boston — **Sacco-Vanzetti award to civil rights and peace activist Cynthia Anthonson.** Info: 277-1385 between 10AM and 2PM. Ask for Robert.

Boston — **With speaker Rev. Donald Lohrop on The Radical Church: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.** Free. Childcare provided. With readings from the letters of Sacco and Vanzetti and music by Ruth Hamilton. 11AM, the Community Church of Boston, Morse Aud. 602 Comm Ave.

Waban — **Get Ready for the Draft: How to Be Prepared, an open meeting sponsored by Parents Against the Draft.** Presentations by draft counselors and the film *Choice or Chance*. Free. 4PM, Union Church, corner of Beacon St. and Collins Rd., near the Waban Station on the Riverside line. Info: 232-6060.

Cambridge — **Writing workshop with Maureen Brady** at New Words. See 28 Saturday.

30 monday

Portsmouth, NH — Clinic for screening of hepatitis B sponsored by STD clinic of the New Hampshire Feminist Health Center and Seacoast Gay Men. \$15. 8:30 and 9:30 AM. No appointment necessary. Unitarian Church, 292 State St.

Cambridge — **Am Tikva sponsors Holocaust Memorial Day service.** See Features Notes.

may 2 wednesday

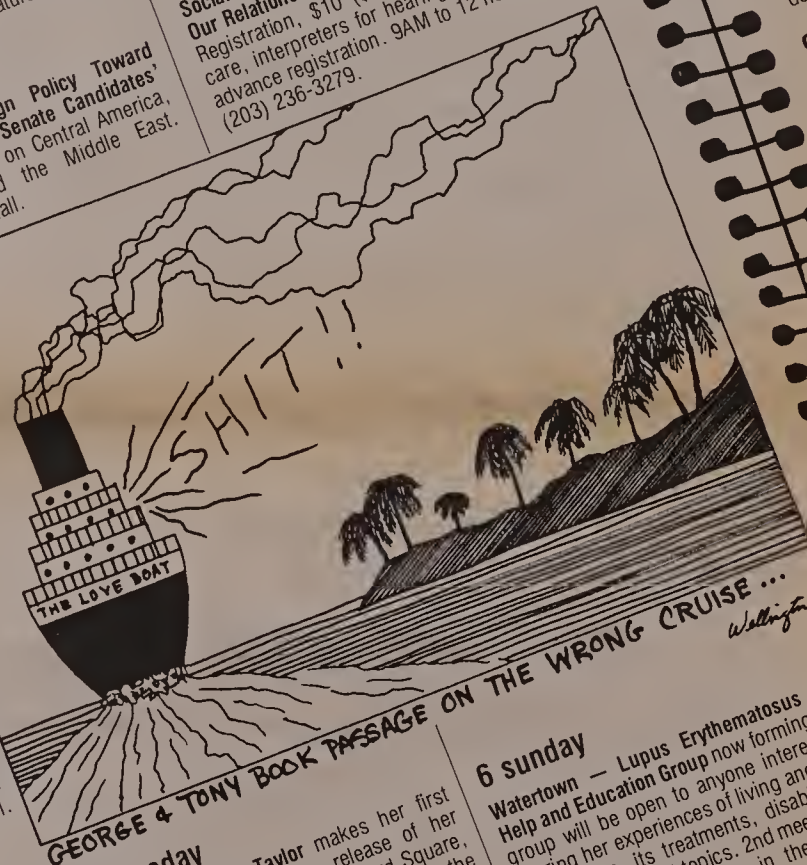
Boston — **U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Developing Nations: A Senate Candidates' Debate.** Foreign policy on Central America, Southern Africa and the Middle East. 7:30PM at Fanueil Hall.

5 saturday

Boston — **Litany of Outrage** sponsored by the **Alliance for Justice in '84.** Themes are: **Speak Out Against Reaganomics, Register to Vote, and Organize for Peace with Justice.** Speakers: Mel King, Felix Arroyo, Jean McGuire, Kip Tiernan and others. Entertain- ment by comedian **Bill Campbell**, Paige Academy Children's Chorus and Rainbow Coalition Band, plus open mike for members of the community to voice concerns. Call Alliance at 266-7100.

Cambridge — **Food Coop Rummage Sale!** 10AM to 4PM. Old Cambridge Baptist Church parking lot, corner Mass. Ave. and Harvard St. Proceeds benefit the Coop.

West Hartford, CT — **The Lesbian and Gay Task Force of the National Association of Social Workers** sponsors two workshops on **Our Relationships for lesbians and gay men.** Registration, \$10 (\$5 low income). Child-care, interpreters for hearing impaired with advance registration. 9AM to 12 noon. Info: (203) 236-3279.



6 sunday

Watertown — **Lupus Erythematosus Self-Help and Education Group** now forming. This group will be open to anyone interested in sharing her experiences of living and coping with Lupus, its treatments, disability laws and other relevant topics. 2nd meeting at the Boston Health Collective in the Armenian Culture Center, 465 Mt. Auburn St. at 7PM. Info: Marcia, eves at 787-2192.

Cambridge — **Radical Feminists of Heterodoxy** author **Judith Schwarz** will present a slide show and talk about women in Greenwich Village from 1912 to 1940. 2PM. Donation \$3. New Words Bookstore, 186 Hampshire St.

Jamaica Plain — **Lesbian and Gay Neighbors** monthly potluck meeting. 5:30 to 8:30PM at City Life office, 670 Centre St. \$1 donation suggested. An opportunity to discuss common concerns. Info: Lorry, 522-3312, Bob, 524-7044.

4 friday

Boston — **The Glass Menagerie**, Tennessee Williams' master work, at the Spectator Arts Theater, 811 Boylston St. 3PM.

4 friday

Boston — **GCN VOLUNTEER NIGHT!** Come help send out the paper to our subscribers. Refreshments and good times. And now finally an intercom at our downstairs door so you don't have to call before you get here. Come anytime after 6pm to our space at 167 Tremont St. (Near Boylston T stop).

7 monday

Back Bay — **Candidates Night for US Senate.** Sponsored by Mass. Gay Political Caucus and Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance. 7PM, 21 Arlington St.

8 tuesday

Cambridge — **Coming Out: Your First Relationship** — Should You Move In? Open discussion. 8PM. All women welcome. Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass Ave. Info: 661-3633. \$1 donation.

9 wednesday

Boston — **Community Networking Breakfast** for representatives of gay/lesbian organizations. 8AM, Club Cafe, Columbus and Berkeley St. This month's presentation by the **Human Rights Campaign Fund** — New England.

10 thursday

Cambridge — **The MIT Writing Program presents Black Women's Literary Traditions** with Dorothy West, Dorothy Sterling, Ann Petry. 7PM in Bldg. 10, Room 250, the MacLaurin Bldg. at MIT (off main entrance at 77 Mass Ave.)

Cambridge — **Mary Daly** reading and lecturing from her new book *Pure Lust: Elemental Feminist Philosophy.* Proceeds to the presidential campaign of **Sonia Johnson**, Citizen's Party Candidate. Donations \$4. Followed by a feminist gathering. For childcare and further info: 969-2946.

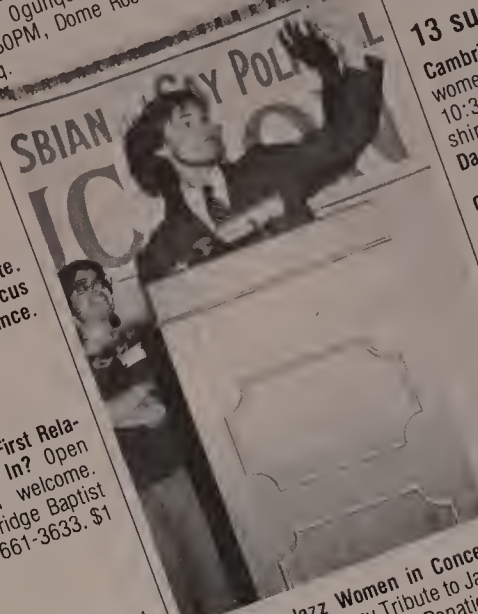
Boston — **The Cell** by **Karen Henry** explores revolution: the desire for transformation and resistance to change. 8PM, Galaxy Theater at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St.



Calendar compiled by Jim Reed

11 friday

Boston — **Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance's Auction '84.** Cash bar, door prizes, guests. Auction includes items from Rita Mae Brown, Harvey Fierstein, May Sarton, Betty Friedan; weekend in Provincetown and Ogunquit. \$5 donation at the door. 7:30PM, Dome Room, Lenox Hotel, Copley Sq.



Alston — **Heart and Soul**, a film by Jane Picard, at a **Celebration of/for Women**, a benefit for the **Sonia Johnson Presidential Campaign.** 6:30PM, Beetle's Lunch, 120 Harvard Ave. \$5 donation in advance at Beetle's or \$5.50 at the door. Info: 254-9457.

Jamaica Plain — **Gay and Lesbian Council of Rainbow Coalition** meeting to discuss organizing progressive contingent for Gay Pride, anti-racist work, voter registration, and building gay presence in Rainbow. Potluck brunch, 75 Williams St., Apt. 1. Info: Malkah, 364-5938, David, 522-0605.

13 sunday

Cambridge — **Mothers' Day Brunch** for women who have a mother or are a mother! 10:30AM. Modern Times Cafe, 134 Hampshire St. All women welcome. Organized by Daughters of Bilitis. Info: 661-3633.

Cambridge — **Amethyst Women Talent Show.** A drug- and alcohol-free event to which all women are invited to share their talents in music, dance, theater, poetry and prose reading. \$4, more if, less if. 7:30PM. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. To perform call 666-4864, 7 to 9PM, or 641-1168 (keep trying) before April 29.

Cambridge — **BWMT** regular meeting. Bring a light refreshment or a contribution to pay for refreshments. A BWMT paper on South African apartheid will be discussed. 1:00PM to 5:00PM, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard.

16 wednesday

Boston — **A Time to Choose: Abortion Rights at Risk in '84.** Mobilization for Survival and the Reproductive Rights National Network forum on the proposed Massachusetts Human Life Amendment. 7:30PM at the Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St. \$2 donation. Info: Bonnie 354-0008.

18 friday

Cambridge — **Straight Talk About Lesbians** produced by **Liz Diamond.** Discussion with Diamond after the presentation. 7:30PM. Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St. \$3 members/\$4 others. Info: 491-6050.

25 friday

Cambridge — **Anniversary Weekend Celebration of Black and White Men Together.** Panel discussion on **Stages of Our Lives**, survival and advancement for gay men and lesbians of different ethnic and racial backgrounds. Free, open to all members of the community. 2PM, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard. Info: Craig, 321-4382; Tom, 536-3392 or John, 636-2305.

26 saturday

Providence — **Pink Triangles**, a highly acclaimed film about prejudice and persecution against gay men and lesbians presented by **Brown University Gay and Lesbian Alliance.** The film will be followed by a talk by filmmakers **Cathy Hollman** and **Julie Palmer.** Free (but donations will be accepted at the door). Info/location: 738-7137.

27 sunday

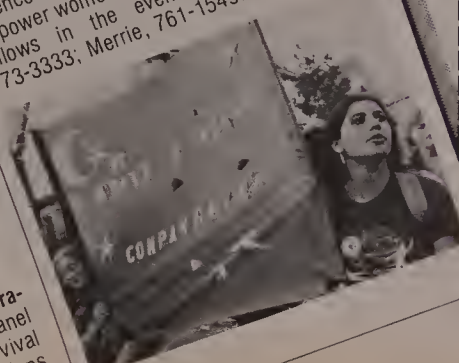
Providence — **Brown University Gay and Lesbian Alumni Wine and Cheese Party** at the Faculty Club, in the Class of '52 Room. 5:30PM. Suggested donation \$5. Info: 738-7137.

Providence — **First Brown University Gay and Lesbian Alumni Dinner.** At the Faculty Club in the Class of '52 Room. Reservations mandatory! Send \$15 per person to Brown Gala, c/o Bill Barnert, 1694-B Beacon St., Brookline, MA 02146.

Boston — **BWMT/Boston** banquet to celebrate its 4th anniversary. 7:00PM, Dome Room, Lenox Hotel. Cash bar. Dinner 8 to 9PM, music and dancing 9PM. Tickets for both \$20 in advance; music alone \$5 at the door. Info: Tom, 536-3392; Craig, 321-4382.

2 saturday

Portland, ME — **Take Back the Night Coalition** sponsors workshops on political, social, psychological, economic and legal aspects of violence against women and on strategies to empower women. A march through Portland follows in the evening. Info: Marilyn, 773-3333; Merrie, 761-1549.



The GCN weekly calendar includes events in the Boston area of interest to the lesbian and gay community. We try not to leave anything out but remember, we depend on you to keep us informed. Let us know as early as possible what your group is planning.

The deadline is Friday noon for the following issue. Just send the information to GCN Calendar, 167 Tremont Street, Fifth Floor, Boston, MA 02111.



Quick Gay Guide

BOSTON-AREA LESBIAN AND GAY BUSINESSES (BARS, BOOKSTORES, COUNSELING, MEDICAL, ACCOMODATIONS, ETC.) ARE LISTED SEPARATELY WITH THE DISPLAY ADS IN THIS PAPER.

Boston Area (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE (6pm-Mid.) Mon-Fri	426-9371
BAGALS (Boston Area Lesbian and Gay Schoolworkers)	
P.O. Box 178, Astor St., Boston, 02123	
Black Men-White Men Social/Support Group	
c/o GCN, Box 1, 167 Tremont St. Boston 02111	
Black Men's Assoc., PO Box 827, Boston 02123	
BAGLY (Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth,	
GCN Box 10GY, 167 Tremont,	
Boston 02111	497-8282
Boston Asian Gay Men & Lesbians	
c/o Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter St.	
Boston, 02108	542-0144
Boston Gay Men's Chorus	522-6983
Boston Lesbian & Gay History Project	
c/o Interrante, 24 Greenwich Pk #1, Boston 02118	
Chiltern Mountain Club	275-1336
Box 104, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114	
El Comité Latino de lesbianas y homosexuales de Boston	
P.O. Box 365, Cambridge, 02139	354-1755
Fathers in Transition (Gay/Bi),	(Ex.Ctr.)266-0621
c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111	
Gay Fathers of Greater Boston, Box 1287,	
Kendall Sq., Cambridge MA 02142	
Gay and Lesbian Physicians of	
New England	247-5485
Gay Professional Men's Group	944-4818
Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau,	
P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107	354-0133
Lesbian and Gay Assoc. Engineers and Scientists	
(LGAES/Boston)	
P.O. Box 1417, Boston 02117	288-3228
Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing	423-0942
c/o GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111	
Lesbian and Gay Hotline (6-12pm) Mon-Fri	426-9371
Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore St., 02215	277-3454
Boston Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays	
P.O. Box 125-S 101, Arlington, MA, 02174	442-2632
Project Place, 32 Rutland St. 02118	267-9150
Transsexual Hotline	568-0680
Triangle Theater, Box 127,104 Charles St.,	
Boston 02114	424-6831
Watchline (Fri-Mon 7-10pm)	262-5250

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance, Box 65,	
Boston, 02117	247-3910
B.U. Gay and Lesbian Legal Association	
B.U. Law School, 755 Comm. Ave.	
Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Alliance	
PO Box 1273, Cambridge 02238	
Civil Liberties Union of Mass.	482-3170
47 Winter St., 02108	
GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders)	
100 Boylston Suite 900 Boston, 02116	426-1350
Harvard Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues	
Roscoe Pound Hall, Cambridge, 02138	
Lesbian/Gay Prisoner Project	
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
Mass Gay Political Caucus	262-1565
Box 6, Astor Sta. Boston 02123	
National Lawyers Guild,	
14 Beacon St., Boston 02108	227-7335

STUDENT

Boston Intercollegiate Gay and Lesbian Alliance	
c/o GAMIT, Rm 50-306, Cambridge 02139	
Northeastern U, Lambda, 260 Ell Ctr.,	
360 Huntington Ave., Boston 02115	437-2738
GAMIT (Gays at MIT)	
MIT 50-306 Walker, Cambridge 02139	253-5440
Harvard-Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian	
Student Assoc., Harvard 197 Memorial	
Hall, Cambridge 02138	495-5476
Harvard Lesbian and Gay Medical/Dental Students Group	
Box 250c, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston 02115	
Babson College, Gay and Lesbian Alliance	
Box A, Babson Park,Wellesley, 02157	
Tufts U., Gay and Lesbian Community,	
c/o Student Activities Off., Medford 02155	628-2818
Boston College G and L Support Group,	
Haley House, Chestnut Hill 02167	
Northeastern School of Law, Lesbian and Gay Caucus	
400 Huntington Ave, Boston 02115	
U/Mass/Boston, Lesbian and Gay Ctr.,	
Rm 1-4 178, Dorchester 02125	929-8276
Brandeis U., Triskellon, Box 2275 Waltham 02254	
	647-4491 or 647-4899
Boston U., Gays and Lesbians.c/o Program Resources	
Off.,	
Sherman Union, Boston 02215	
Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni/Boston,	
c/o GCN Box 7, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
Wellesley Lesbians & Friends, Feminist Coop	
Oakwoods, Wellesley Coll. Wellesley MA 02151	

WOMEN

Aradia Counseling for Women, 520 Comm Ave	
(Kenmore Sq.)	247-4861 x58
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St.	354-8807
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave.,	
Cambridge 02138	661-3633
Dyke Doctors (Lesbian Physicians, Med Students	
Health Profs)	524 6335
Gay Professional Women's Assn.,	
Box 339, Boston U Sta., Boston 02215	
Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers	723-6327
Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center	354-8807
Lesbian S/M Group	776 7957
National Organization for Women	
99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge 02139	661-6015
Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St., 02143	628-6311
Tufts Women's Center	628-5000 x3184
Urania (lesbian and bisexual women's S/M group)	
Box 23, 89 Mass Ave., Boston 01225	623 7258
Women's Alcoholism Program,	
6 Camelia St., Cambridge 02139	661-1316

RELIGIOUS

Am Tikva	
P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, 02138	782-8894
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston 02114	
Friends (Ouker) for Lesbian and	
Gay Concerns, 5 Longfellow Pk., Cambridge	227-9118
Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208	262-3057
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People	536-3788
Metropolitan Community Church	523-7664
Fr Paul Shanley	964-0996
Unitarian Universalists Office of Lesbian/Gay Concerns	
25 Beacon St. Boston 02108	742-2100

MEDIA

Boston's Other Voice, WROR, 98.5FM	Dennis 353-0225
Fag Rag	661-7534
Gay Community News	426-4469
Good Gay Poets	661-7534
Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA)	
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, 02111	227-9118
Musically Speaking (WMBR 88.1FM. Sun. 1-3)	
Melanle	494-8810
Women's Educ. Media, 47 Cherry St	
Somerville 02144	666-0350

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

AIDS Action Committee	
c/o Fenway Community Health Center	
16 Haviland St. 02115	
AtDS Hotline	
M-F 3-9pm Sat 10am-4pm	536-7733
Boston Free VD Info	1-800-272 2577
(8am-10pm, M-F)	
Alcoholics Anonymous	426-9444
Exodus Ctr., 25 Huntington Ave 02116	266-0612
Gay AIAnon (amilies of alcoholics)	843 5300
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Counseling	
Program (non-profit)	744 5322



Eastern Mass. (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Gay Hotline	756-0730
Mass. Teachers Assoc./Gay Rights Caucus	
P.O. Box 75, New Salem 01355	
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance	745-3848
Box 806, Marblehead, 01945	471-7100
Survival Crisis Line	
So. Shore Gay & Lesbian Alliance	
Box 712, Bridgewater 02324	584-4997
Tri-County Assoc., c/o 219 East Main St,	
Milford 01757	473-3529
Dignity Merrimack Valley, P.O. Box 321, Methuen 01844	
Central Mass Dignity/Integrity Group, Box 402,	
Federal Sta., Worcester	

WOMEN

New Bedford Women's Clinic	996-3341
Womantide (lesbian magazine),PO Box 963, P'town 02657	
	487-3393

STUDENT

Clark U. Gay Alliance, 950 Main, A 70	
Gay Outreach Assoc. for Lowell (Univ.) Students	
South Campus, Student Union Rm 348	453-3804
Salem State Gay Task Force	
Salem St. College, Salem 01970	745-0556 (ext. 209)



Western Mass. (413)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Berkshire County Gay Coalition, P.O. Box 1562,	
Pittsfield 01201,	442-1819
Lesbian and Gay Men's Counseling Collective	
406F Student Union, UMass, Amherst	545-2645
GALA (Gay And Lesbian Activists)	
Box 1084, Northampton 01061	
Help Line	664-6391, 664-6392
Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance	
Box 181, Northampton, 01061	584-7903
MCC Springfield, PO Box 15576,	
Springfield 01105	(M-Sat 7-10pm)532-5211

WOMEN

Valley Wimmins Connection	586-6445
Common Woman Club, 78 Masonic St.,	
Northampton 01060	584-4580
Everywomen's Center, Amherst	545-0883
Franklin Cty. Lesbian Alliance	
P.O. Box 235, Deerfield 01342	
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst	545-3438
Lesblans United 33 Pearl St, Pittsfield, 01201	499-2425
New Alexandria Lesbian Library	
Box 402, Florence, MA 01060	584-7616
Southwest Women's Center	545-0626
Valley Lesbian Alliance	665-4705; 253-3082, 774-5464

STUDENT

Hampshire College Gay Men's Alliance	
Box 89, Amherst 01002	
Lesbian & Gay Men's Counseling Collective	
406F UMass Student Union, Amherst	545-2645
Lesbian Union, 920 Campus Center,	
UMass, Amherst 01003	545-3438
People's Gay Alliance, 413 Student Union RSO 242,	
UMass Amherst 01003	545-0154
Williams Gay Peoples Union	
S.U. Box 3212, Williams College, Williamstown 01267	



Connecticut (203)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Black and White Men Together,	
58 Winchester Ave., New Haven 06511	562-2906; 933-0185
Conn. Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 1139, New Haven 06505	
Helpline for Greater Danbury	426-4922
Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury,	
c/o Box 2045, Danbury 06810	
Gay Switchboard, Hartford, M-S 1-11 pm,	
Sun 1-5 pm, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, New Haven,	
P.O. Box 72, 06501; M-F 8-11 pm	624-6869
Gay Spirit (WWUH, 91.3FM) Thurs 8:30pm	
George W. Henry Foundation (counseling),	
45 Church St., Hartford 06103	522-2646
Greater Hartford Lesbian & Gay Taskforce	249-7691
Institute of Social Ethics/Gay National Archives,	
One Gold St., Suite 22-BC, Hartford 06103	547-1281

WOMEN

Gay Women's Collective, c/o Women's Center,	
Box U-118, UConn, Storrs 06268	486-4738
Heartroots Feminist Therapy Collective,	
22 Allen Pl. #B3, Hartford 06106	249-0504
The Newsletter, a lesbian position,	
PO Box 3075, New Haven 06515	
Women's Center, Hartford, c/o Hill Ctr.,	
350 Farmington Ave, Hartford 06106	249-7691
Women's Center, Manchester Community	
College, P.O. Box 1046, Manchester, 06040	646-4900
Women's Center, UConn, Box U-118,	
Storrs 06828	486-4738
Women's Center, Wesleyan, Box WW,	
Wesleyan Sta., Middletown 06457	347-9411
Women's Liberation Center, New Haven,	
614 Orange St., New Haven 06510	776-2658

STUDENT

Alternate Lifestyles Awareness Group,	
Social Work House. Farnham Ave.,	
New Haven 06515	397-4331
Eros. Gay Students at Trinity College	
c/o Chaplain's Office, Hartford 06106	527-3151
Gay Alliance at Yale,	
P.O. Box 2031, Yale Sta, New Haven 06520	
Gay Alliance, UConn, Box U-8, Storrs, 06268	486-2273
Gay Alliance, Wesleyan. c/o Women's Center,	
Box WW, Wesleyan Sta., Middletown, 06457	347-9411
Lesbian and Gay Community at Conn. College	442-7458
P.O. Box 1295, New London 06320	
Gay Student Ctr Yale, Box 2031, New Haven 06520	
Lesbian/Gay Student Alliance UConn	
W Hartford 06117	523-4841 x-267
Lesbians, Wesleyan. c/o Women's Center,	
Box WW, Wesleyan St., Middletown 06457	347-9411
Yalesbians, c/o Yale Women's Ctr,	
5051 Yale Sta., New Haven 06520	

RELIGIOUS

Dignity/Fairfield County,	
P.O. Box 348, Belden Sta Norwalk, 06850	
Dignity/Hartford, P.O. Box 72, Hartford 06141	233-8325
Dignity/New Haven, P.O. Box 5335, Hamden 06518	
Integrity/Hartford, P.O. Box 3681,	
Central Sta., Hartford 06103	522-2646
Integrity/New Haven, P.O. Box 1777,	
New Haven 06507	787-1518
MCC/Hartford, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
MCC/New Haven, P.O. Box 1273,	
New Haven 06505	777-9808

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

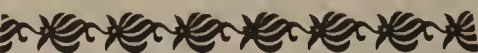
AIDS Project New Haven, PO Box 636,	
New Haven 06503	624-2437(AIDS)
Gay AA (Danbury)	426-4922, 748-5341
Gay Health Workers at YNNH,	
Box 2031, Yale St. New Haven. 06520	436-8354



Maine (207)

Gay Phoneline (Caribou)	896-5888
AWA (Male), Box 746, Old Orchard Beach 04064	
Bates Gay/Straight Alliance, Health Ctr	
Bates College, Lewiston 04240	

Bowdoin College Gay/Straight Alliance,	
Brunswick 04011	
Dignity/Maine, Box 7021, Lewiston 04240	
Down East Gay Alliance, Box O, Ellsworth 04605	
Gay Peoples Alliance	
92 Bedford St., Portland 04103	780-4085
Interweave: Unit/Univ. Gay/Lesbian	
Community, Box 215, Augusta 04330	797-3246
Lesbian Rap Group, 92 Bedford St., Portlend	
MCC Portland, Box 583 Westbrook 04092	
Mid-Coast Gay Men, P.O. Box 496, Camden 04843	236-9015
Northern Lambda Nord, P.O. Box 990, Caribou 04736	
Maine Lesbian Feminists P.O. Box 125, Belfast 04915	
Portland Women's Community	
c/o D. Elze, 15 Deering Ave., Portland 04101	
Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Caucus	
125 Auburn St., Portland 04104	773-2121
Wilde-Stein Club, c/o Memorial Union,	
U. of Maine, Orono 04469	581-1288
Parents & Friends of Gays	549-7325(eves & wkends)
Orthodox Community of Holy Apostles,	
RFD Box 680, N. Whitefield 04353	549-7325
The Maine Chapter (social org.) Box 1255, Ellsworth 04605	



Rhode Island (401)

Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth	751-3322, 272-9247
Families of Gay Persons	723-0050
Gay Help Line	751-3322
Box 5671, Weybosset Hill Sta. 02903	8pm-midnight
Providence Gay Group of AA	331-2047
Brown Lesbian Collective,c/o Sarah Doyle Ctr.	
Box 1829 Brown U., 185 Meeting St.,	
Providence 02912	863-2189
186 Meeting St., Providence, 02912	863-2189
Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay	
Civil Rights, PO Box 5758 Weybosset Hill,	
Providence 02903	351-4499, 728-6023
Social Group for Gay Women over 25	
Box 22, 77 Ives St., Providence 02906	
University of Rhode Island Gay Task Force	
Women's Center, URI Kingston	
Women's Growth Ctr.,	
97 Knowles St., Pawtucket 02860	728-6023
Brown/RISD Gay Students, Box 49, Brown U.,	
Providence 02912	863-3062
Brown U. Lesbian/Gay Alumnae/i Assoc.,	
GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont,	
Boston 02111	(617) 720-1870, 661-7223
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawtucket 02861	942-9400
MCC/Providence, 5 Junction St., Providence	272-9247
MCC Special Ministry (terminally ill, aged and	
handicapped), Rev. George McDermott	272-9247



New Hampshire(603)

Gay NH Infoline, 10am-10pm, Concord	485-5612
Nashua Area Gays, P.O.Box 3472,	
Nashua 03061	424-3252
NH Lambda, Box 1043, Concord 03301;	
224-3785, 889-1416,	
746-3339, (crisis) 483-2592.	
Greater Nashua Area NH Lambda,	
P.O. Box 6443, Nashua 03063	889-1416
Speakers Bureau, Box 1043, Concord 03301	
Concord Area Gay Youth,	
Box 832, Concord 03301	(Ron) 225-5622
Concord Men's Group	
Box 832, Concord 03301	(Herb) 485-5612
Suncook Gay Prisoner Project	485-5612
Gemini, Keene Support Group,	
Box 461, W. Swanzey, 03469	
Seacoast Gay Men, P.O. Box 1394 Portsmouth 03801	
Full Circle, monthly calendar of women's events,	
Box 235, Contoocook, NH 03229	
Iris, a women's club	
40 Pleasant St., Portsmouth 03801	436-8958
Lesbian Feminist Collective, Box 47, Penacook	
Dartmouth Gay Students' Assoc.	
Hinman Box 5057, Hanover 03755	
Information Outlet	1-800-852-3311
Keene Klondykes, Box 261,	
Gilsum 03448	827-3766; 847-9589
Manchester Men's Group	
P.O. Box 3734, Manchester 03105	Jack 669-0096



Vermont (802)

Gay AA/Burlington	862-4019
Central Vermont Gay Men, (CVGM), Box 42, Barre 05641	
Gay Student Alliance Box 987, Johnson State Coll., Johnson 05656	
Gay Student Union, U of Vt, Box 45, Billings Center Burlington 05405	
Gay People at Middlebury Box D56, Middlebury College, 05753	
Gay Volleyball c/o Box 99, Hinesburg 05461	482-3528, 862-4019
Interweave, Box 454, Derby Line 05830	
Johnson St. Coll. Gay Student All.	
Box 987, JSC, Johnson 05656	
Lifestyles, Box 534, St. Johnsbury 05819	
Rutland Area Gays (RAGS), Box 147, Center Rutland 05736 (2nd Sats)	
Social Alt for Gay Men (SAM), Box 479, Norwich, VT 05055	649 1304
Southern Vermont Gay Men	387-GAYS or (603) 756-4226
Southern Vermont Women's Health Center, 187 N. Main St., Rutland, 05701	775-1946
Vermonters for Lesbian/Gay Rights (VLGR), Pearls Restaurant, Pearl St., Burlington	879 1867
Women's Center, P.O. Box 92 Burlington 05401	863-1236
Integrity, Box 126, Burlington 05402	864-7198



THE NATIONAL GAY HEALTH EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN/GAY HEALTH CONFERENCE

“TOWARD DIVERSITY”

Including:

THE THIRD AIDS FORUM

June 16–19, 1984

The NATIONAL GAY HEALTH EDUCATION FOUNDATION presents the Sixth National Lesbian/Gay Health Conference: The International Lesbian/Gay Health Conference. This year's conference theme is “Toward Diversity” which reflects its multi-focus purpose with special emphasis on Third World, International and Lesbian health concerns. The conference will also include the **Third AIDS Forum** under the auspices of the Federation of AIDS Related Organizations (FARO).

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Registration fee covers the cost of attending all workshops including the Third AIDS Forum

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\$50 Student* Retired over 65 (\$40 before 5/8/84)
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